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The Journal

Thursday, December 8, 1994

50 cents (Tax included)

Page IX, No. 14

Newsline

Library's future to be reviewed

The Friends of the El Cerrito Library will hold their annual meeting, Dec. 8, at the El Cerrito Library, 6510 Stockton Ave., from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The speaker will be Marie Gold, chief librarian of Contra Costa Library system, who will discuss the future of county libraries following the defeat of

Measure B. In El Cerrito, the measure passed by approximately 70 percent.

Everyone interested is invited. There will be refreshments and entertainment. Please call Eileen Leon, Chairman, Friends of the El Cerrito Library, at 526-5116 for more information.

Albany High School hearing set

The public is invited to attend a public meeting to participate in a discussion about the remodeling and construction of new facilities at Albany High School. The meeting will be held on Monday evening, Dec. 12, from 7 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the AHS Little Theater.

In 1993 voters approved a \$31.6 million bond to improve school facilities at the Albany Unified School District. Approximately one third of that amount has been designated for facility improvements at Albany High School. The architect and his team are set to begin preliminary

planning and design specifications early in 1995.

Comments and opinions from the public about how the new and remodeled AHS facilities should look like, inside and out, are encouraged and welcomed. Residents, parents, AHS students and alumni, adult education students, community organization representatives and others interested in high school facilities should plan to attend the hearing.

For more information call Larry Hughes, AUSD Public Information Officer, at 559-6580.

Tree trimming today

The El Cerrito Library will have a Tree Trimming Program for school-age children today, Dec. 8, at 3 p.m. Preschoolers with an adult are welcome also. Material will be provided to make paper ornaments. Home-ornaments can be brought in by participants as well. Tree is donated by the Friends of the El Cerrito Library. The program will last about 40

minutes. No admission fee is charged.

El Cerrito Library, a branch of the Contra Costa County Library, is located at 6510 Stockton Ave. Hours are: Monday, noon to 8 p.m.; Tuesday, 1 p.m. to 6 p.m.; Wednesday, closed; Thursday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 1 p.m. to 5 p.m. For further information call Mrs. Agnes Chen, Youth Services Librarian, at 526-7512.

Albany City Council OKs police review

By Susan

An analysis of the Albany Police Department will be performed by independent consultant to assess organization's efficiency and effectiveness.

The City Council Monday night unanimously authorized City Administrator Darren Fields to enter into a contract with Ralph Anderson & Associates.

Independent consultant Ron Brown of Brown & Associates, said the consultant will perform an organizational analysis of service levels, issues and support services

and systems."

Brown also said the organizational analysis would review the size and scope of the impact the proposed Albany Cardroom might have on police department functions.

City Councilmember Elizabeth Baker, who asked for the audit, lauded the action Monday, saying, "I asked for this and it is time to look at the bigger issue of organizational analysis in the police department."

The City Council approved an analysis of the department last summer. See REVIEW, page 10

Mayoral moves



EL CERRITO - Newly appointed Mayor Norman LaForce presents outgoing Mayor Jane Bartke with a clock from the city in appreciation for Bartke's work in the position over the past year. See story page 5

State study names hazard zone in EC

By Dawn Frasier

EL CERRITO — A significant portion of El Cerrito has been named a Very High Hazard Severity Zone by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CDF). That comes as no surprise to fire department staff; the city has considered the zone high risk by its own standards.

The Tom Bates' bill, AB 337, required the setting of standards for fire safe roofing and vegetation clearance in certain areas of the state in order to reduce the risk of wildfire impinging on urban zones.

The bill required the CDF to inventory and identify areas at risk throughout California. The agency then refined its own standards, now required in the newly defined areas.

In November, maps were distributed to local agencies for signoff; though Fire Chief Steve Cutright has signed off on the boundaries for the risk zone in El Cerrito, the city does have 120 days to challenge them. It's an action he doesn't expect.

"The area is essentially the same as we had adopted when we were going for the (fire hazard abatement) benefit assessment district,"

Cutright said. "What was so gratifying is that we considered a certain zone as high risk, and the CDF came in with a field survey and came to the same conclusion."

"That independent judgement ... served as something of a reality check, a test to show us that we were in fact on track."

"We strongly endorse the Bates bill, and we're very pleased that they came to the same conclusions we did."

Generally, the Bates bill imposes two requirements on businesses and homeowners in the designated zones: class B roof coverings on all

new buildings and those which are re-roofed 50 percent or more and a minimum 30 foot clearance of all flammable vegetation and combustible material.

Beyond setting similar boundaries as those set by the state, El Cerrito has also set high standards for maintaining its high risk area.

"This raises the level of local standards to state law, (but) we essentially took the CDF standards when we adopted our weed abatement program," he said.

In several cases, standards are stricter. The CDF, for example, sets

See HAZARD, page 10



Third grade students, (top right to left) Angela, Samar, Adrian, Max, Zach and Jose make earrings at Cornell School.

Student showcase

By Amy Berg

Last spring local potter Susan Williams, co-owner of Albany Arts Studio and parent of a Cornell School student, teamed up with another parent, Susan Zarchy, in proposing an idea for an Arts Festival to be held at Cornell School.

Not only would the festival showcase student-made crafts, but it would also allow the students to contribute something of themselves to a fund-raising effort that would put proceeds directly back into their classrooms to pay for art materials.

Soon after school resumed this fall, Zarchy and Williams began to put their vision into action, pooling the talents of Cornell's faculty, par-

ents, and students. The Cornell Arts Festival will be a day-long event of family fun and will offer a chance for holiday shopping for one-of-a-kind handmade gifts.

Third-grade teacher Pete Smith has timed his annual student-run business, Jaguar Jewelry, to coincide with the Arts Festival. The business, overseen by Smith, is run by his third-graders, who are involved in everything from the jewelry design and construction to the accounting and selling of the items.

The jewelry is made from real stones such as picture jasper and turquoise and Czech glass beads.

See SHOWCASE, page 10

Kensington land purchase in the works

By Dawn Frasier

KENSINGTON — Representatives of the Kensington Community Service District (KCS D) and the West Contra Costa Unified School District have signed a real estate purchase agreement for surplus district property. The KCS D

met Tuesday night to work out the contingencies of the agreement under very tight deadlines. Complicating the matter is the fact that 2/3 of the KCS D board is new; Tuesday was the first meeting for newly-elected board members David Fike and Lynn Wolter.

Fike and Wolter are not new to

the situation, however; both have been active in advocating for acquisition of the surplus property and are well aware of the remaining unresolved issues.

The property has been designated as Parcel A and Parcel B. By advisory vote, the community had recommended that the board pursue

purchase of Parcel A, which includes the park/open space area currently leased by the KCS D for recreational purposes and the old Jefferson School site; it comprises about six acres. Some discussion continues as to the future of the two-acre Parcel B purchase; that

See LAND, page 10

Planning, public works merged in Albany

By Tara Suan

ALBANY — In the latest in a series of administrative shake-ups, the Albany City Council voted to merge the city's public works and planning departments into a new department which emphasizes environmental planning.

According to City Administrator Darren Fields, the Department

of Community Development & Environmental Resources will encompass community priorities and help Albany respond to state and federal mandates in the areas of clean air, clean water and waste management.

"My intent in proposing this new structure is to address a number of areas of community concern and to strengthen existing program func-

tions in a more proactive, systematic function," Fields said Monday at the City Council meeting.

The restructuring plan is not a downsizing of city government and will not lead to layoffs in either the public works or planning departments.

Rather, the new organizational structure will be staffed by 10 people

instead of the current total of nine between the two separate departments.

The move comes at a time when Claudia Cappio, planning director, will leave city employment to attend law school and Public Works director Ron Lefler has just tendered his resignation.

See MERGE, page 10

EBMUD adopts seismic cost sharing plan

By Carolyn Younger

EBMUD rate payers and property owners within the two-county water district will share the cost of \$189 million in seismic improvements, the district's board of directors decided recently.

The 4-2 decision to divide the cost of the program — half will appear on water bills and half on property tax bills — came after three hours of public presentations and board debate. Directors Andrew Cohen and John Coleman voted against the bifurcated collection method and director Katherine McKinney was absent.

"We are elected to the board to use our best judgment," said board president Stuart Flashman. "In my best judgment, there is a clear benefit here to property owners (as well as water users)...I'm very pleased we were able to reach a point of agreement."

Board members also urged that the project be put on a fast track and completed in 10 years, rather than the proposed 15.

"Frankly, my own feeling is that the possibility of an earthquake is even higher than initially expected when the study was started," Flashman said.

The hybrid levy, based on a percentage of a customer's total monthly water bill as well as parcel size, will be collected over a 35-year period. The charge that will appear on the water bill as a seismic improvement surcharge is based on 7.8 percent of the total water bill. The charge that shows up on the parcel owners' property tax bill is derived from the size of the parcel.

For example, a typical residential customer using 250 gallons a day and owning a 1/4 acre or less, would have an additional total monthly levy of between \$1.50 and \$1.55.

Of this, 70 cents per month would appear on the bimonthly water bill and 80 cents to 85 cents a month would be collected on the property

tax bill.

"The rationale is that property owners have a direct benefit derived from seismic improvement program and this (spreading of the charges) recognizes the benefit," said EBMUD spokesperson Ida McClendon. "All of us derive benefit of a district being able to provide a safe water supply within three weeks of the most cataclysmic event."

At the regular Dec. 13 board meeting, the board of directors will decide when the levies will become effective. Seismic upgrade charges could appear on water bills as early as January of next year and on property taxes in December, 1995.

Setup costs for adding the additional charge to water bills is expected to be less than \$5,000. Collecting the seismic improvement charge on property tax bills will cost the district about \$120,500, in addition to an estimated \$230,000 in setup costs for generating a separate taxroll of approximately 75,000 parcels in Alameda and Contra Costa counties.

The upgrade is based on a two-year district study, urged by board

member Andrew Cohen following the Loma Prieta earthquake.

Although the staff said that rate payers responding to a water bill query were unanimous in their acceptance of the project and accompanying charge, not all the speakers at Tuesday's public hearing were as conciliatory.

Hayward resident Homer Harlan told EBMUD staff it was "only guessing" at the possibility of a 7.0 magnitude earthquake and the impact on district supply lines and tunnels.

"Why should customers pay money for something entirely questionable," Harlan quizzed directors. "How can you fix something that isn't broken...No one knows when or where an earthquake will occur, if it ever will, (and) there is no guarantee that a \$189 million program will do the job."

However, according to data gleaned from state-of-the-art computer modeling technology, a staff study estimates that a 7.0 quake along the Hayward fault could cut off water to 63 percent of EBMUD customers, damage four of the six water treatment plants, cause up to

5,500 breaks in pipes serving homes and businesses, block the Claremont Tunnel which carries water to the East Bay hills and increase fire risk by halting water flow to hydrants.

EBMUD's 3,400 miles of supply lines are also at risk from quakes along the Concord, Calaveras and San Andreas faults, the study concludes.

Without seismic improvements, it would take the district at least six months to reconnect water service for all customers and nearly two years before service was back to normal, said Dennis Diemer, EBMUD director of engineering and construction. Water users could also face as much as \$2 billion in business and property losses as a result.

The seismic redo approved by the board includes upgrading pumping plants, treatment plants and 20 reservoirs, and reinforcing the Claremont, San Pablo and Upper San Leandro tunnels. Plans call for installing large diameter pipe at fault crossings and anchoring vital equipment such as electrical cabinets, microwave and radio equipment.



Chippone working on a watercolor painting.

Holiday sale to benefit center

Works by more than 25 members of the Albany Adult School Senior Botanical Painting and Drawing class will be displayed and for sale at the Albany Senior Center on Sunday.

The class, led by instructor Stephanie Scott, produced a wide variety of watercolors, drawings and paintings of flowers and landscapes that will be offered at affordable prices.

Ten percent of art sales will be donated to the Albany Senior Center to support senior programs.

Some class members have been exhibiting their work professionally, while for others this weekend's event is their first exhibition. The artists bring to their work a variety of backgrounds including micro-

biology, nuclear medicine, television, carpentry, stone-working, logging, pottery, opera and much more.

Scott has been a practicing arts for 28 years and has a master's degree from the San Francisco Art Institute. She currently teaches art in her Oakland studio, through the Albany Adult School, workshops through the College of Marin, Alameda park and Recreation Program and other community education programs.

The holiday show and sale will take place Sunday, Dec. 11 from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. The center is located at 846 Masonic Ave., north of Solano Avenue.

Admission is free and refreshments will be served. For further information call 524-9122.

Symphony season

The Kensington Symphony Orchestra, led by Lloyd Elliott, Music Director, will present its second concert of the 1994-1995 season.

The concert will take place on Sunday evening, Dec 11, at 7 p.m. at the First Unitarian Church, One Lawson Road, Kensington. Included in the program will be:

Walter Piston — Brass Fanfare
Carl Maria von Weber — Concertino for Oboe and Winds — Moira Little, oboe
Ralph Vaughan-Williams — Flos Campi for Viola, Chorus & Orchestra
Ludwig van Beethoven — Symphony No. 3, "Eroica"

The tickets are: General admission, \$8; seniors, \$6; and children 12 and under, free. For further information call 234-9529.



Moira Little

New principal appointed

By Shannon Morgan

ALBANY — The Albany School Board at their meeting Nov. 22 appointed a new principal for Vista/MacGregor Primary School, replacing Helen Laird who recently resigned her post.

Sarah Merrill, who took over the job last week, most recently worked as an assistant principal in the San Ramon Valley Unified School District and taught in the Oakland Unified School District prior to that.

In a prepared statement, Merrill said she has both planned and imple-

mented curriculum changes and has participated in the "shift toward a more thinking-centered curriculum for students."

She was raised in the Boston area and is fluent in Italian and French. She and her family live in El Cerrito.

Merrill was selected from a pool of eight candidates screened by the Preliminary Interview Committee, consisting of teachers, parents and staff and was chosen from a group of three interviewed by the School Board.

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Media Notes

BILL MANN

Balk Radio

There are, you may have heard, some unhappy campers at Mickey's Mouth Club these days. That would be KGO Radio, where iron-fisted general manager Mickey Luckoff has been involved in some bruising salary negotiations with his on-air talent.

The latest episode involves popular morning talk host Ronn Owens, who didn't show up to work last Thursday, the day his contract expired. I called Ronn that morning — it was odd talking to him at home at 10 a.m. on a weekday instead of hearing him on the radio.

Owens may or may not be back at work on Newstalk 81 by the time you read this. When I chatted with him, he sounded a little down, not surprisingly, saying, "I feel like I've lost my kid." Nighttime know-it-all Duane Garrett was filling in for the more talented Owens that morning — Garrett had announced the night before that Ronn wouldn't be coming in. "I was surprised Duane said that," Owens said. Like nobody would notice.

Even if Owens reaches — or has reached — a settlement, as usual, it won't have come easily. Owens has been doing some of his best work lately after 19 years at the ABC-owned station. He stresses that he's the only guy in a major market who's now beating Rush Limbaugh, although it's been a seesaw battle the past three years on morning talk radio between Owens and Limbaugh, who's just been resigned at KNBR after an unsuccessful attempt by Luckoff to lure Limbaugh away to the

new KSFO.

Owens makes no bones about the fact that he's looking for his big score. "I'm thinking of my kids' college. I got great press from the Burt Reynolds blow-up, I'm beating Limbaugh, and I feel this contract is my time to cash in. You gotta stand up for what you believe in." Owens sighs and says the contract impasse "Will probably work itself out."

Insiders estimate Owens is making around \$160,000 a year, whereas talk-show hosts at KGO's ABC sister station in L.A. like pompous Brit Michael Jackson pull down around \$300K. Luckoff, as Dorothy Parker once put it, has a reputation for throwing nickels around like manhole covers. And, KGO staffers have told me, Luckoff also intensely dislikes dealing with agents, preferring to go toe-to-toe with his talk hosts — a less-than-even playing field.

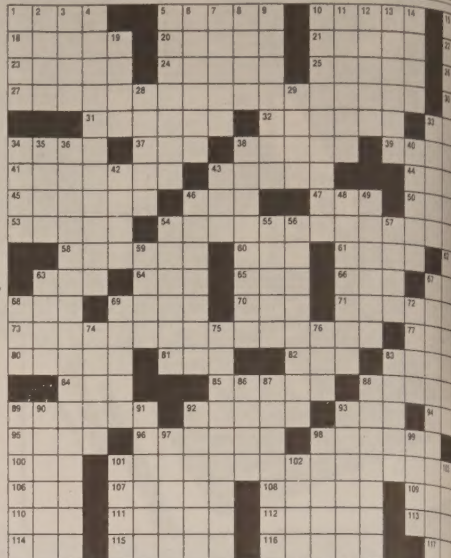
Afternoon KGO anchor Ed Baxter has just hammered out a new deal with Luckoff, but not before threatening to bring a lawyer in to help with his stalled negotiations. Owens refers talk about the specifics of his own negotiations to his agent, David Katz, in New York (Katz also represents Howard Stern. And, as mentioned, Luckoff has great love for agents. That's probably why Owens' KGO predecessor in mornings, Owen Spann, was never invited back to KGO after going to New York, not liking it and wanting to return. Spann once told me Luckoff was furious when he told the G.M. to deal with his agent (which Spann said was a KGO first), and Owens is reportedly the only current KGO talk host to

New York Times Magazine Puzzle

FULL MARKS

BY ROBERT H. WOLFE / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ

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use an agent.

But this will all probably be resolved, presumably in the near future. Owens won't get all he wants, but he'll get a nice raise. And when his next contract is up, the whole nasty cycle will probably repeat itself.

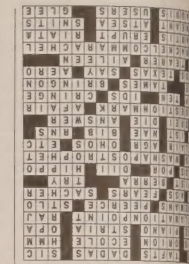
November Sweeps
Highlights: With the help of high-powered ratings from its 'Scarlett' miniseries, CBS won the November sweeps. This should have helped local CBS affiliate KPIX a great deal, but you'd never know it from the 10 p.m. news ratings, where

KTVU's respected newscast actually increased its lead over KPIX.

More people were watching TV news last month than usual, possibly due in part to the newspaper strike. KRON continued to show improvement in several time spots, increasing its lead on its "Daybreak" edition, pulling away from KGO a bit at 11 p.m., beating KGO at 11:30 a.m., and posting impressive gains at 5 and 6 p.m., where Channel 7 still wins. Not much this time for Channel 5 to brag about, except that it beats Channel 2 at noon.

Channel 5, with high-powered CBS programming leading in to its newscast and the high-powered Letterman show leading out at 11, should be doing a lot better at 10 p.m. Early prime at Channel 5 has hardly been an unqualified success.

Holiday Note: David Letterman's great line about a once-popular (still-popular?) gift: "Do you suppose in the broadest sense, that there's ever been a man who's actually said to himself, 'Boy, I'd really like some Old Spice for Christmas?'"



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Tea time



Norma Breslin (right), manager of the American Cancer Society Discovery Shop in El Cerrito, practices her serving technique with chairperson Barbara Hersey in preparation for this Saturday's Mad Hatter Tea Party. The event will take place from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will feature an Alice in Wonderland-themed High Tea complete with crumpets and hats. The store is located at 10313 San Pablo Ave. Call 527-1469 for information.

New mayor takes helm in El Cerrito

By Dawn Frasier

EL CERRITO — Norman La Force is El Cerrito's new mayor. Former mayor Jane Bartke handed over the gavel at a special ceremony Monday night. The council chambers were packed as the first male mayor in a number of years took office.

In the short Redevelopment Agency meeting which followed, Mae Ritz handed over her gavel to Bartke, who will chair the agency during the coming year.

La Force is an attorney and handles a number of cases involving environmental issues. He is active in regional issues and is currently serving as president of the San Francisco Bay chapter of the Sierra Club.

In accepting the new responsibility, La Force thanked his fellow council members and praised the congeniality and sense of cooperation in the group. He also pointed to a "truly remarkable staff" as "one of the things that has made us work so well as a city." The commitment

to public service of El Cerrito's staff members has been underlined by the variety of charitable efforts different individuals have made, he said.

La Force said he came to his city council position "with the classic optimism of someone new to politics and public service."

Immediately, however, he and other council members were faced with "a tremendous brick wall of fiscal reality," cuts in local revenues caused by both the federal and state levels of government. Many hopes, he said, were put on the back burner, "but we slugged it through."

Even more than that, said La Force, El Cerrito was able to get its "fiscal house in order," increasing reserves and putting the city on a sound financial footing.

The new mayor believes the vitality of the city will continue, particularly with the voters' authorization to continue redevelopment activity.

Particularly in an urban area, he said, things can't stay as they've always been.

"We must respond to new situations," said La Force, who sees redevelopment as a tool for insuring against the kinds of things he's seen in other urban centers — boarded up businesses and "a spiral of decline and decay."

One of his goals as mayor is "to foster a constant economic life in the city."

"That will change some things," he said. "New businesses will come, some old ones will leave. Some old

businesses will stay and grow."

More economic development, La Force believes, will bring the increased sales tax revenues El Cerrito needs to avoid further burdens on the taxpayers — such as increased utility taxes.

"We have to have a constantly changing, vitalized life (in the) city," he said.

La Force also addressed several other issues El Cerrito is facing. Though governance of the city and the city's schools is separate, good schools are important for a community, he said, pointing to property values as one indicator.

La Force supports the West Contra Costa Unified School District's proposed assessment district since it demonstrates an efficient use of both city and school resources, particularly in the program possibilities it will provide for youth.

"This district did pass by a substantial majority, if not a landslide, the last parcel assessment," he said later. "Despite what the opponents say, there is clear support for the assessment."

Another continuing issue will be the attempt to balance finances with the services needed to make El Cerrito "a good place to live," he said.

Those include a number of aspects, from police and fire services to parks to meeting the Americans with Disabilities Act requirements for providing handicapped access, requirements that not all communities are addressing with the energy El Cerrito is, he said.

As mayor, La Force will also be interested in watching the state and federal levels of government, in order to be able to deal with them "rationally and logically" as an informed city. From issues of homelessness to an acceptance of new immigrants into the United States, he said, he'll do his best to articulate the philosophy he'd like the city to project.

La Force praised El Cerrito for its proven proactivity in many areas already, particularly in care for the environment. He pointed out, for example, that the city is "almost near the 50 percent goal" for waste reduction required by the state for five years from now.

Efforts in recycling and other areas, he said, "are reflective of the character of this community."

In opposition to that, La Force believes, was the recent passage of Prop. 187. For La Force that reflected "a lack of understanding as to who we are as a people and a lack of vision."

His own ancestors, he said, were illegal aliens of the 1600s, who came without a charter and without the invitation of those who lived here.

Certain attitudes, he said, "appeal to the baseness in our culture."

"That's not where the strength of our community lies," he said, making a pledge to follow a higher vision as mayor.

"We are a good community, and we can do good things together," said La Force. "It starts with us."

"Starting with us, we can create a movement that can turn this country around."

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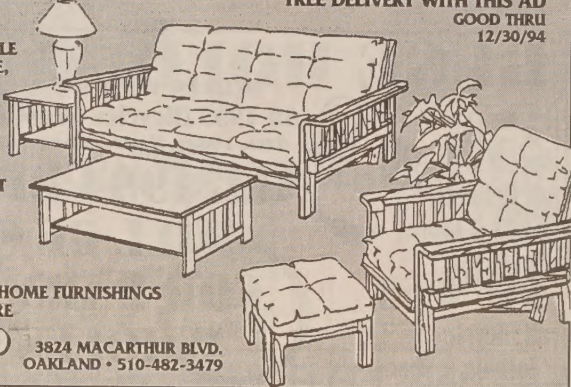
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County sheriff offering safety seminar

Contra Costa Sheriff Warren E. Rupf says he is concerned about the effects of violence in the home and workplace.

In 1992, over 1,000 homicides occurred in the workplace. In 1992, of the 22,540 total homicides committed nationwide, 39 percent were unsolved.

Of those crimes solved, 78 percent were committed by an acquaintance, friend, or family member, normalizing the need to understand

how to prevent those crimes of violence in our home and workplace.

Rupf says that police officers' professional relationship with the citizens of Contra Costa County requires that they strive to form partnerships via crime prevention, community based policing, neighborhood watch, etc.

But departments can also show leadership as a business by establishing those same partnerships with police employees.

Rupf will offer a two-day seminar at no cost to the spouses and employees of the Contra Costa Sheriff's Office or selected business leaders.

It will be held during the evening hours in December for the convenience of the employees and spouses.

Business leaders are being invited to attend in the hopes that reducing violence in the workplace and homes will be repeated through-

out our business communities.

The seminar was developed to address personal safety in and around the home, vehicle, and workplace and will be presented by Chuck Lattig, president of Be Safe, Inc.

Lattig, a former FBI agent, is an expert on the psychology of criminal victimization.

For any information, call Training Manager Deidre Robinson at 646-2841.

POETRY

Each week The Journal will feature poems by students at Albany's MacGregor Primary School and MacGregor High School. Students wrote these poems during workshops with California Arts Council Poet-in-Residence Judith Tannenbaum. For further information, call MacGregor High School, 559-6570.

This project is funded in part by the California Arts Council, a state agency, and the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency.

the first drop of a rainstorm.

All I wanted was for them to read my "A-" paper, to say something comforting and not overlook my talent peeking over the covers in a scary room. But the war raged on shot after shot was fired the ammunition was reloaded in their minds and let loose through their vocal chords never stopping to see me caught in the cross fire.

This battle was too familiar.

I took my "A-" paper walked into my room and read it to myself. But the talent was now hiding under the covers scared of something but not the dark room.

My next paper was a "D-."

—Dubie, MacGregor High School

AUTUMN

There's dew on the plants. Frost is on the leaves. Most of the flowers are fading. Leaves are falling from the trees. Days are shorter, nights are longer. It grows colder every day. Birds fly south for the winter. It is a time to dress warmly.

Pumpkins are growing. Pumpkins turn orange. Pumpkin pie all through this season. Halloween comes and lots of kids go trick or treating.

In Canada, the snow is falling on Halloween.

—group poem, Pam Marquardt's second grade class, MacGregor Primary School

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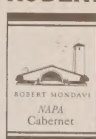
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| Hennessey V.S. 750ml | 17.98 | Safeway | 19.88 |
| Grand Marnier 750ml | 23.95 | Lucky | 28.88 |
| Goldschlag Cinnamon Schnapps 750ml | 14.98 | Safeway | 19.88 |
| Amaretto di Saronno 750ml | 13.99 | Longs | 15.29 |

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Goings on About Town

Performances

André Watts: Dec. 10, 8 p.m.: Will play a piano recital at First Unitarian Church of Berkeley. The program includes Mozart, Schubert, Beethoven, Janáček, Debussy and Chopin. One Lawson Road, Kensington. Call 525-0302.

Berkeley Community Chorus & Orchestra: Dec. 10, 8 p.m. and Dec. 11, 2 p.m.: Free holiday concert at 1640 Addison St., Berkeley. Call 525-5393.

Collegium Musicum of Berkeley: Dec. 8, 8 p.m.: Directed by David Taylor. Free in Hertz Hall on the UC-Berkeley campus.

Community Women's Orchestra: Dec. 11, 7 p.m.: Opens 10th anniversary season at Le Conte School, 2241 Russell, Berkeley. A portion of the proceeds will benefit the Berkeley School Music Fund.

Early Music at St. Alban's: Dec. 10, 8 p.m.: "In Jubilo! A Celebration of Christmas," a concert of Renaissance and Baroque music from the British Isles, Spain and the Americas. 1501 Washington St., Albany. Call (415) 753-0361.

Kensington Symphony Orchestra: Dec. 11, 7 p.m.: Lloyd Elliott directs this concert at First Unitarian Church, One Lawson Road, Kensington. Call 525-3323.

Maybeck: Dec. 11, 4 p.m.: Jessica Williams and Dick Whittington, two piano concert. 1537 Euclid Ave., Berkeley. Call 527-6779.

New Pieces: Dec. 9, 8 p.m.: Friday Night Harp series presents "Tales for a Winter's Night." 1597 Solano Ave., Berkeley. Call 527-6779.

Pacific Mozart Ensemble: Dec. 11, 5 p.m.: "The 20th Century's Luscious Liturgical Legacy" at the First congregational Church in Berkeley. Mezzo sopranos Lynne Morrow and Elisabeth Eliassen appear as featured soloists with the 40-voice chorus.

Vista/BHS Orchestra: Dec. 10, 6:30 p.m.: Performs at the Berkeley Store Gallery Annex, 2295 Shattuck Ave., in conjunction with the Holiday Arts and Crafts Fair. Admission \$1. Dec. 15, 8 p.m.: They join the Berkeley High School Concert Choral at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley.

Voci: Dec. 10, 8 p.m.: Presents "Rejoice! Rejoice!" a concert featuring music in celebration of Christmas. 2727 College Ave. \$5-\$9.

Berkeley Ballet Theater: Dec. 10, 11, 17 and 18: "The Nutcracker" at 2640 College Ave., Berkeley. Call 843-4689.

Berkeley High: Dec 9 and 10, 8

p.m.: Agatha Christie's "Appointment with Death." Florence Schwimley Little Theater, Alston Way at MLK, Jr., Berkeley. Call 644-6846.

The Masquers: "Me and My Girl" runs through Dec. 17. Call 888-9688.

Ashkenaz: Dec. 8: Mecca Bodega; Dec. 9: West African Highlife Band; Dec. 10: Solstice; Dec. 11: Zydeco Slim; Dec. 13: Motor Dude Zydeco; Dec. 14: Beverly Stovall; Dec. 15: Resistance. 1317 San Pablo, Berkeley. 525-5054.

Freight & Salvage: Dec. 8: Alice Di Micele; Dec. 9: Kevin Burke's Open House; Dec. 10: The House Jacks; Dec. 11: The Westerleys; Dec. 14: Don Edwards; Dec. 15: Shay & Michael Black. 1111 Addison St., Berkeley. Call 548-1761.

Kimball's East: Through Dec. 11: Gerald Albright with Lalah Hathaway; Dec. 14-18: Brian McKnight; Dec. 21-24: Charles Brown; Dec. 28-Jan. 1: Alex Bugnon & Special EFX. All shows 8 and 10 p.m. unless otherwise noted. \$18-\$24. 5800 Shellmound St., Emeryville. Call 658-2555.

La Peña: Dec. 9, 9 p.m.: Orixia and Adicon Social; Dec. 10, 9:30 p.m.: John Santos and the Machete Ensemble. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 849-2568.

Starry Plough: Dec. 8: Stimmies, E is for Elephant; Dec. 9: Baby Snufkin, Ralph Carney & Friends; Dec. 10: Idiot Flesh, NC-17; Dec. 11, 8 a.m. - noon: Sam Andrews, formerly of Big Brother and the Holding Company; Dec. 11: Dreamland, Manufacturing of Humidifiers; Dec. 14: S.F. Envelope; Dec. 15: The Old Joe Clarks, The Underthings. Music starts Thursday through Saturday, 9:30 p.m.; Sunday, 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 3101 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 841-2082.

Meetings, Classes, Lectures and other events

9th Annual Emeryville Holiday Stroll: Dec. 10 and 11, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.: Emeryville wholesalers and local craftspeople at 26 locations.

Amnesty International: Dec. 10, 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.: Holds a letter writing party to commemorate International Human Rights Day at the Emery Bay marketplace. Call 530-7363.

Christmas Pageant: Dec. 11, 4 p.m.: The children and youth of St. John's Presbyterian Church will present "The X-Mas File" at 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. Call 845-6830.

Human Rights Day: Dec. 11, 2 p.m.: Observance features Ann Fagan Ginger speaking on "International Conventions: The New Civil Rights

Laws" at 6420 Shattuck Ave., Oakland. Call 525-0592.

KPFA Crafts Fair: Dec. 10 and 11, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.: Concourse Exhibition Center, 7th & Brannan streets, San Francisco. Call 848-6767.

Women's Business Network: Dec. 10, 7 - 10 p.m.: "Shop 'Til You Drop Holiday Auction" featuring women-owned products and services at the Lake Merritt Boathouse, 568 Bellevue in Oakland. 482-8583 for tickets.

Black Oak Books: Readings, Dec. 8: Valerie Miner, *A Walking Fire*; Dec. 9: Philip Levine, *The Simple Truth*. All events 7:30 p.m. unless noted. Free. 1491 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. 486-0698.

La Tienda: Dec. 10, 2 p.m.: José Luis Orozco, *De Colores: The Latin American Children's Song Book*. 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 849-2568.

Berkeley Hiking Club: Dec. 11: 8:30 a.m.: Down the Wheeler Grade, call (415) 892-3706; 9:30 a.m.: Mini hike, Tilden Park, call 848-7604.

Contra Costa Hills Club: Dec. 11: Mt. Tamalpais, call 658-3281; Dec. 15: S.F.'s Union St. "Boutique Row" to Palace of Fine Arts, call 782-0786 or 562-2647.

Marmot Mountain Works: Dec. 13, 7 p.m.: "Sea Trekking in Baja" with Ken Howell and Bob Licht. 3049 Adeline St., Berkeley. Call 849-0735.

REI: Dec. 8: A World in One Country: Travels in Costa Rica; Dec. 15: The Wild Muir: John Muir's Greatest Adventures: A World in One Country: Travels in Costa Rica. All lectures 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted. 1338 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 527-4140.

Ecology Center: Dec. 10 and 17: Holiday crafts fair at the Saturday Berkeley Farmers' Market. Call 548-3333.

UC Botanical Garden: Dec. 10, 4-6 p.m.: "The Plant Communities of the East Bay Parks" by Glenn Keator. Haas Clubhouse in Strawberry Canyon. Call 642-3343.

BRJCC: Dec. 11, 3 p.m.: "Lies My Father Told Me" concludes the Sunday at the Cinema - Fall Series; Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m.: Luc Brébon present an art lecture on "The Art of Gustave Caillebotte." 1414 Walnut St., Berkeley. Call 848-0237.

Graduate Theological Union: Dec. 8, 8 p.m.: "From Jerusalem to the Bay Area: Christian and Jewish Perspectives on Multiculturalism" by Dr. David Hartman. 2798 Scenic Ave., Berkeley. Call 649-2400.

Jewish Community Services: Dec. 14, 7 p.m.: "Coping With Holiday Stress for Gay & Lesbian Families" by Rachel Biale, LCSW. 1414 Walnut

St., Berkeley. Call 935-0991.

St. Mark's Episcopal Church: Dec. 11, 5:30 p.m.: David Farr plays a recital at 2300 Bancroft Way, Berkeley. Call 848-5107.

Albany YMCA: Dec. 10, 7 - 11 p.m.: Country Western Dance; Friday Folkdancers meet weekly, 8-11 p.m. For information call 848-5289. 921 Kains Ave. Call 525-1130.

Berkeley Folk Dancers: International folk dance lessons. Beginners class: Tuesdays, 7:45-9:45 p.m. Classes for other levels available. 1301 Shattuck at Berryman, Berkeley. Call 527-2491.

Berkeley YMCA: Dec. 14, 7:30 p.m.: Karate demonstration by Shotokan Karate of America's Berkeley and San Francisco Dojos at 2001 Allston Way. Call 848-9622.

Herobics: Dec. 10, 1 - 3 p.m.: Fitness video star Victoria Johnson will teach a two-hour class, open to the public. \$35, call 524-8416 to register. Herobics Women's Aerobic Studio every Tuesday at 6:15 p.m. offers Bellybatics, first class is free.

Lehrhaus Judaica: Northern California's largest school for adult Jewish studies, begins its Winter/Spring semester in early February. Call 845-6420 for a free catalog.

Richmond Art Center: Holding several workshops for adults Dec. 10 - 12. Call 620-6772 for information.

Vista Community College: Dec. 3, 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.: "Selling Tours and Packages." 2020 Milvia, room 3030, Berkeley. Call 841-8431 ext. 267.

Berkeley-Leon Sister City Assoc.: Dec. 11, 2:30 p.m.: "Public Health in Crisis: Nicaragua and California," a panel discussion at Redwood Gardens, 2951 Derby St., Berkeley. Call 527-1748.

Berkeley Public Library: Holding community meetings on public Internet access. Remaining days are Dec. 8 (North Branch) and Dec. 14 (Claremont Branch). Call 644-6850 or 644-6880, respectively.

Center for Accessible Technology: Dec. 10, 9 a.m. - noon: Toys, puzzles, board games and software for sale at 2525 8th St., Berkeley. Benefits the Disabled Children's Computer Group.

Contract Bridge: Berkeley-El Cerrito-Richmond League unit has duplicate bridge games at several times and places. Call 232-6689 or 526-1767.

East Bay Genealogical Society: Dec. 14: December meeting features the annual Cookie Exchange and member presentations. Call 635-6692.

Great War Society: Dec. 10, 10:30 a.m.: East Bay chapter meeting topic "The Role of Aircraft in Determining Outcome of the War." Call 527-7118.

North Berkeley Senior Center: Dec. 12: "Cholesterol, Fighting the Fats" by Jane Barrett, RD, Kaiser; Dec. 13: Classical piano concert by Robin Kempster; Dec. 15: Holiday Dance features Torlu Saito Quartet. All events at 1:15 p.m. unless otherwise noted. 1901 Hearst St., AtMLK, Jr. Way. Call 644-6107.

Exhibits
ACCI: "Jole de Vivre" ACCI's first holiday gift show runs through Dec. 30. 1652 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 843-2527.

Albany Library: "Wood is Wonderful," an exhibit featuring Holgate toys from yesterday and today runs Dec. 5 through Dec. 31. 1247 Marin Ave., Albany. Call 526-3720.

Berkeley Artisans: Weekends through Dec. 18: Holiday open studios featuring over 100 artisans. Free maps available for pickup at 1250 Addison St., #214 or call 845-2612.

Berkeley Artist: Leon Saperstein - photographs, through Dec. 31. Cafe Kati, 1963 Sutter St., San Francisco. Call (415) 775-7313.

Berkeley Historical Society Museum: "Drop Me A Line: A Postcard Review," runs through April 1, 1931 Center St., Berkeley. Call 848-0181.

Berkeley Store Gallery: "Recent Paintings and Drawings by Amy Kaufman" through Jan. 14. 2230 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Call 649-0272.

East Bay Heritage Quilters: Quilt Show through Jan. 9 at 300 Lakeside Drive, Mezzanine Art Gallery, Oakland.

Gallery of the Center for Psychological Studies: "Crosstalk" painted conversations between females by Benny Alba opens with a reception Dec. 9, 5-7 p.m. and runs through Jan. 3. 1398 Solano Ave., Albany. Call 524-0291.

Graduate Theological Union: "The Architecture of Light: Sacred Architecture in Istanbul, Cappadocia and the Mediterranean Coast," an exhibit of black and white photographs by Blaine Ellis runs through Dec. 22. 2400 Ridge Road, Berkeley. Call 639-2400.

Hearst Museum of Anthropology: "Irrangels: Iranians in Los Angeles," a photography exhibition, runs through Jan. 2. 103 Kroeber Hall, College Avenue and Bancroft. Call 842-3681.

Nature Company: "Minerals of the World," a special exhibit and sale

runs through Jan. 2 at 740

New Pieces: "Shades of Peace," an exhibit of quilts by Friedland and Rebecca runs through Jan. 4, 1597 Ave., Berkeley, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. day - Saturday and noon to Sunday. 527-6779.

Nexus Gallery: Oakland artists on exhibit through Dec. 2701 8th St., Berkeley. Call 8380.

NIAD: "Floor Cloths and runs through Dec. 31 at Cranberry Gallery in Ghirardelli Square, North Point St., San Francisco (415) 441-1537. "Art From" Holiday Fair and exhibit runs Dec. 30 at 551-23rd St., Berkeley. Call 620-0290.

Refractons: "Impression Sante Fe," an exhibit of photography by Susan Bettelheim through at 600 San Pablo Ave., Albany. Call 527-6664.

Richmond Art Center: Arts Festival and Auction is now through Dec. 4. The auction is now through Dec. 4. Civic Plaza, 25th Street and Broadway, Richmond. Call 620-0290.

Sticks: "Watercolor and Etchings by Elizabeth Kavanagh" with a reception Dec. 8, 7-9 p.m. 1579B Solano Ave., Berkeley. 526-6603.


Strawberry Creek Designer: "Susan Brooks & Co. Shanks -- Holiday Open House" Dec. 10, 11, 17 and 18. 1250 St., Studio 214, Berkeley. Call 2612.

Tattoo Archive: Through 1995: "Sailor Tattooing," an exhibit that celebrates one of the traditions in the art of tattooing designs, especially nautical on view through Jan. 1995. 2200 Pablo Ave., Berkeley. 548-0290.

University Art Museum: "The Gods: Art and Altars of the African Americas" runs Feb. 19, "A Moveable Feast: nese Ceramics and Bronzes of Warren King collection" through 1995; "Images and Ideas: The collection of Focus" ongoing. Durant Ave., Berkeley.

University Lutheran Church: "Gloriam Dei" will be on view Jan. 22. 2425 College Ave., Berkeley. Call 843-6230.

World Institute on Design: Exhibit of artwork by Shoji opens with a reception on Dec. 4:30 - 9 p.m. and runs through 23. 510 16th St., suite 100. Telegraph and San Pablo.



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Love of art and children at the heart of writer/illustrator's talent

Elisa Kleven grew up surrounded by art and artists. This is why, although she has no formal art education, her bright, textural illustrations are so popular.

When she spoke recently before the Friends of the Albany Library, her audience was captivated by her work. She writes and illustrates children's books, and does illustrations for such books written by other authors.

Her method of illustration is unique. She uses collage, putting together her own drawings, cuttings, and even recycled matter, such as pieces of old material, of paper, and other materials. The finished illustration has a textural quality that is very exciting.

Speaking before the Friends, she showed how she did the pictures for her book, "The Lion and the Little Red Bird." The tail of the lion — a very important part of the story — was made of yarns. And elsewhere in the pictures one can find bits of old material, of paper, and other materials. The illustration sure to excite the child as well as the adult who is reading to her.

The daughter and granddaughter of artists, Elisa says her books are a natural mixture of her love of art, her love of writing (her degree from the University of California, Berkeley was in English) and her love of children. Put them all together, mix carefully and out comes a multi-talented woman, Elisa Kleven.

Born in Los Angeles, Kleven says her

grandmother started it all. At the age of 15, her grandmother escaped from the pogroms of Russia with her sister, and they traveled alone to the U.S. Grandmother became a sculptor whose work was widely recognized.

Elisa's mother combined her talent with her passion, and during the civil rights era and the anti-war movement, it was her mother, Lorraine Schneider, who did the block print that became a watchword for the movement, the one that said, "War is not healthy for children and other living things." It was done in a handsome block, using childish letters which, Elisa confides, were taken from her own childish printing.

Lorraine Schneider did other work that was widely recognized and greatly admired. In fact, looking through the book Kleven showed me, I recognized many pieces that became popular icons.

Elisa loves being in the world of children's books. "It is kind of a refuge from the chaos of the real world," she says, and she adds, "I am threatened by the lack of imagination in the world." That, she feels, is where a lot of the cruelty in the world comes from. "You don't empathize beyond your own boundaries."

Elisa speaks of a beloved children's book she read called "Miss Rumphius." Miss Rumphius' father tells her she must do something to make the world more beautiful. "That's my goal," Kleven

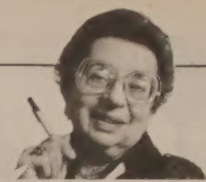
says, and she wants to do it by adding imagination to the children's world. "The only power that children have is their imagination. I want to give children something beautiful or hopeful or imaginative. Something that encourages their own possibilities."

She says beginning her career was difficult, as it usually is for a writer. Her first story, when accepted by a publisher, had to be reworked many times. "And it is still a struggle with each book," she says, "but it is worth it."

She says she came by her own way of illustrating when she was a child. "I liked to make material things," she remembers. "Worlds within worlds. And that's what they are. Sort of a microcosm." She works in watercolor as well as collage. She says it all grew out of playing with dolls. She would make clothes for them, and embroider them with bits of yarn and wool and use some lace. And that is what she does with her illustrations. "It's a lot of fun."

Does she read her own books to three-year-old Mia? "No, I like to read her other people's books." But husband Paul sometimes reads Elisa's books to Mia.

The Klevens live in Albany, where Paul has his law practice. I enjoyed seeing their home. The door is surrounded by birds which she painted, and other touches of her art make the home very special.



Community Folk

By Clara-Rae Genser

Elisa Kleven has done 10 books, four of her own and six of others. I was entranced by one, "De Colores and Other Latin-American Folk Songs for Children," selected, arranged and translated by Berkeleyan Jose-Luis Orozco and illustrated by Elisa Kleven.

It is a happy book, bright with Elisa's wonderful illustrations and full of the most wonderful songs in both languages, including La arana pequeñita (The Eensy, Weensy Spider).

What a lovely world she lives in, and how much she enhances it.

Thank you, Maurice Newburn (of M. Newburn Books) for recommending Elisa Kleven.

And I invite all of you to continue giving me your input: interesting people, activities, events, organizations, etc. Please write to me at 555 Pierce St., #443, Albany, CA 94706, or call 525-4585.

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County holiday food donations lagging

By all accounts, a record number of people will experience tough times this holiday season. Yet less food is being donated now, leaving food banks worried that they won't be able to meet the need.

Recently the federal government announced that funding to purchase food in The Temporary Emergency Food Assistance (TEFAP) program

was being cut 75 percent. The impact of this decision locally is a loss of 500,000 pounds of food for the Contra Costa Food Bank.

The food bank lost an additional 500,000 pounds in 1994 from national companies because of continued efforts by the food industry to reduce food waste. Running more efficient operations is good for busi-

ness but bad for charitable agencies that distribute surplus and unmarketable products.

"Together, these developments represent a 20 percent reduction in available food resources," said Larry Sly, executive director of the food bank. "Worst of all, they come at a time when a record number of local people need food assistance."

To make up the difference, the food bank has organized additional community food drives, seeking donations from individuals to offset declining government and business support. Food bank collection barrels are being placed in more than 800 sites throughout Contra Costa County, including all Safeway and Lucky stores and First Interstate Banks. The food bank's Con-

cord warehouse also will be open extended hours to accept food donations.

The Contra Costa Food Bank provides food every month to 37,000 needy Contra Costa County residents. Children, homeless families, low-income seniors, and others receive free meals and food baskets through a network of 200 charitable agencies supported by the food bank. The food bank also operates three programs (Brown Bag, Food for Children, and USDA Commodities) that provide food directly to local people in need.

For more information, the public is urged to call 1-800-870-FOOD. Callers to that number in other Bay Area counties will be connected to their local food bank.

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In the Game



By Peter Mentor

The fun begins

Two losses and a win for El Cerrito and two wins and a loss for Berkeley at the West Coast Shootout last weekend doesn't change the prediction on how the season will go for these two boys' basketball teams. It does make an interesting pre-thought on how the season will play against each other later this month and where the season will be at that time as far as records go.

Berkeley played host at its own highly competitive tournament in which any team, with the exception of Cleveland from L.A. way, could have won

El Cerrito and Berkeley were scheduled for a possible collision in the tournament finals, but the Gauchos were derailed in the second round by losing 64-63 to eventual tournament winner Harvard Westlake of North Hollywood. El Cerrito picked up its only win in a one-sided 81-46 blasting Cleveland in the second round, 57-53 to John W. North of Riverside. That meant the Gauchos were five points away from a perfect record, but instead El Cerrito is hanging below the mark at 1-2.

Berkeley is up at the .800 mark after winning its first three games and splitting two tournament games to go 4-1. The Yellowjackets had a bye in the first round of the tournament and needed a comeback in the second round against San Mateo 62-52 and make the finals against Harvard Westlake.

Berkeley had a lot of trouble in the finals and needed a comeback to make the game even close, but the Jackets shot in their first loss of the season.

CROSSTOWN SHOW: W.N. Berkeley and El Cerrito in a non-league game Dec. 30 Berkeley, and that should be an interesting match, especially when considering common opponents.

El Cerrito lost to Harvard Westlake by one point and Berkeley to the same team by four points, giving the Gauchos the edge on the other hand, Berkeley to San Mateo by 10 points and San Mateo beat North 74-73, and went on to beat El Cerrito by 10 points, giving the Jackets the

Gauchos players and parents were watching Berkeley play, I know I met some of them coming to the gym. Like Berkeley they are too upset about the losses, but this is the preseason and they know they have the talent to beat North Coast and NorCal. Berkeley and El Cerrito meet in the preseason game and by then should know what they have as meshing talent with action in anticipation of league and beyond.

Berkeley High football awards banquet tonight

Berkeley football had a great season and now it's time to hand out honors for that success. The Yellowjacket gridiron program is having an awards dinner tonight at 6:30 at Spenger's. Guest speaker for the event is former Cal football coach Bruce Snyder, now at Arizona State. Berkeley had five first team league selections including Michael Navies, J'Juan Cherry, Bernhard, Na'cem Perry and Reggie Pittman.

Second team picks were James Smith and Joe Davis, while honorable mention recipients included quarterback Prentice Walker, Joey Smith, Aram Shephard and Earl

Jackets second in local court contest

Berkeley boys' hoops off to 4-1 season start

By Peter Mentor

Berkeley was hoping for a good start to the boys' basketball season to follow on the heels of the successful football season the school enjoyed. The Yellowjackets are 4-1 after finishing second to Harvard Westlake of North Hollywood in the West Coast Shootout Saturday at Berkeley.

Berkeley entered its own tournament at 3-0 and had the advantage of a bye in the first round when Englewood dropped out.

The Jackets beat San Mateo 52-42 in the second round Friday night for their fourth win, but could not find the basket against undefeated Harvard Westlake (3-0) in a 54-50 loss in the championship game.

This was a solid tournament for the teams involved, with many of the games coming down to the final minute or less.

Competition was close with the championship and consolation finals each decided by four points and two other contests coming down to the last shot in one-point games.

San Mateo beat John W. North High of Riverside 74-73 in the opening round and finished third overall by beating fourth-place Manual Arts.

North placed fifth in the tournament, edging El Cerrito 57-53 in the consolation round.

El Cerrito lost its opening game 64-63 to eventual winner Harvard Westlake, showing just how close most of the teams were at this point in the season.

Berkeley's second-place finish at the tournament against stiff competition from teams in this area and out of Los Angeles was a great start to the season for the Jackets.

"Last year at this time we weren't 4-1," said third-year Berkeley coach Jesse Gossett, who suffered through a 9-17 season last year. "I feel in a tournament like this, just placing is a good start."

Berkeley found itself down by double digits in both games, and each time the Jackets fought hard to come back with different results.

Against San Mateo, the Jackets came back from an 11-point deficit in their first game when 6-foot-7, 240-pound junior Jermaine Jackson posted up in the middle and scored 14 points in the second half for the win.

That victory placed Berkeley into the championship game against Harvard Westlake, the team that beat El Cerrito after scoring in the last seconds of the game and crushed Manual Arts 90-76 in the semifinals to meet Berkeley in the finals.

Berkeley and Harvard Westlake entered the finals undefeated. The two teams played evenly through the first quarter, with the Wolverines taking a slim 13-11 lead.

Berkeley could not buy a basket in the second quarter and the

See JACKETS, page 12



West Coast Shootout action: Berkeley's Rashidi Barnes glides in for a layup. Jeff Lindquist photo

Gauchos working to turn talent to points

By Scott Kaplan

One week into the season, and the character of the El Cerrito boys basketball team is already being tested.

Last week the immensely talented Gauchos opened up the season in sub-par fashion, losing two of three in the Berkeley West Coast Shootout.

El Cerrito dropped contests to Harvard-Westlake of North Hollywood (64-63) and North of Riverside (57-53). The Gauchos defeated Cleveland of Reseda (81-45).

Given El Cerrito's tournament losses were against fine teams and their win was a massacre, the fact remains that the Gauchos aren't playing good basketball.

"We've got a nice club," said Gauchos coach Chris Huber. "It's a little disappointing to come away with two losses. I was hoping to be able to get into the championship round and if we still lost one game I would have been content."

In both of El Cerrito's losses the team held 11- and 8-point leads to eventual champion Harvard-Westlake and North respectively. The Gauchos also committed turnovers in the double-digits in all three contests.

"I don't know what the problem is," said Huber. "We play well at times and there are

See GAUCHOS, page 12

Albany starts fresh
Cougars win their first two games

By Peter Mentor

It's been two years since Albany High has won a girls' basketball game, but already this year the team has two wins and the feeling of confidence is beginning to grow.

The Cougars (2-2) won their first two games of the season, beating Mt. Diablo 34-33 and knocking off Beacon 53-29 for a 2-0 start.

The confidence factor took a dip in a 55-39 loss to Alhambra, then fell back to the low of last year's winless season when John Swett pounded Albany 68-30.

The Cougar girls were depressed at that outcome, so first-year head coach David De Hart told his players they would have to live with the ups and downs of the sport because there will be a lot of that this season.

"The John Swett game kind of bummed them out," said De Hart, a history teacher in his 10th year

at Albany High. "I took them aside and told them this was a game and to have fun." The team was pretty used to losing last year, going the entire season without a win. That's why the victories this season were so inspiring — the hard work in practice finally paid off.

That first game of the season

"I told them this was a game and to have fun."

—FIRST-YEAR COACH
DAVID DE HART

was a real eye-opener for the Cougars, who came back from a 19-11 deficit at the half to pull within one point at 25-24 by the end of the third quarter.

Albany was still down by one with time running out when junior

See ALBANY, page 12

Reach for the rebound

El Cerrito senior guard Karen Maoki can't get the rebound against Skyline in the first round of the Titan Classic held over the weekend at Skyline High in Oakland. The Gauchos lost 62-40 to host Skyline, then dropped a 60-47 match to Burton of San Francisco.

Jeff Lindquist photo



Under-10 Golden Eagles top field at soccer tourney

The Golden Eagles, U-10 soccer team, soared to victory during the ACCYSL Tournament Nov. 19 and 20 at the Canyon Trail Park in El Cerrito.

The two-day tournament featured five of the best teams from Albany, Berkeley and West Contra Costa County. Included were the El Cerrito Earthquakes, El Cerrito Cyclones, WCC Hot Rods, Albany/Berkeley Barracudas and the Golden Eagles.

The tournament champions, the Albany/Berkeley Golden Eagles, won four consecutive games; accumulating 25 out of a possible 28 points (3 points per win, 1 point for a tie; 1 point per goal, 3 points maximum per game; 1 point for a shut-out).

The runner-up in the tournament was the EC Earthquakes with a total of 15 points.

This new point calculation method offers several major advantages over the traditional elimination method. Each team played four games, and each was encour-

aged to score as many goals as possible in order to obtain more points. Thus, the games became more offense oriented and accordingly, more exciting for the players and the spectators.

On Saturday, Nov. 19, the Golden Eagles started the tournament with a victory of 3-1 against the determined WCC Hot Rods. They were evenly matched until the middle of the second half when Ryan Nelson scored a stunning goal on the run, 15 yards from the goal line. This goal left the WCC Hot Rods cooled off. Other players who excelled for the Eagles that morning were: Julian Coffman, Douglas Fisch, Brendan Tierney and Garin Hecht.

The second Golden Eagles game was played on Saturday afternoon against the EC Cyclones. It was won handily by 5-0. The inspired Eagles played superbly with half backs Gabriel Manzanarez, Devin Scott, and David Kessler and forwards Mat-

See SOCCER, page 12



Back row: Coach Rafael Manzanarez, David Kessler, Danny Yadegar, Julian Coffman, Nathan Simmons, Ryan Lynch, Matthew Hansen and assistant coach Roger Scott; front row: Ryan Nelson, Nicolas Birnbaum, Douglas Fisch, Brendan Tierney, Gabriel Manzanarez, Devin Scott and Garin Hecht

Jackets

Continued from page 11
ineffectiveness on the offense lasted most of the game for the Jackets as shots bounced off the rim time after time.

The Wolverines have twin-tower brothers Jarron and Jason Collins, both sophomores at 6-9 and 6-10 respectively, and they were the story in the first quarter scoring 11 of Harvard Westlake's 13 points.

However, in the second quarter it was Westlake's 6-foot guard Ben Robbins doing most of the damage.

Robbins went scoreless in the first quarter, but had eight points, including two three-pointers in the second quarter, in a 16-7 scoring run.

Robbins added 12 more points in the second half, spiced with two three-pointers and 4-of-6 shooting from the line for a game-high 20 points.

Berkeley was down 38-22 with 3:16 left in the

third quarter and the Jackets managed to cut the lead to three with 14 seconds left in the game.

This time the Berkeley offense was spurred on by junior guard Doug Guterrez, an all-tournament selection who scored nine of his team-high 19 points in the fourth quarter.

Berkeley sent Harvard Westlake to the line seven times in the quarter, and the Wolverines scored only five points while missing the front end of the one-and-one three times to give Berkeley a chance.

Berkeley junior Rashidi Barnes, another all-tournament pick, cut the lead to nine on a nice baseline drive and junior Marcus Williams Jr. (10 points) nailed his fourth consecutive free throw to cut it to seven.

Guterrez scored his final field goal and Barnes went inside for a hoop at 52-49, but Robbins hit two free throws to ice the game for Harvard Westlake.

Guterrez was fouled with no time left and his free throw made the game appear closer than it was.

"We played them tough," said Gossett. "This kind of game will help us during the season. The kids showed a lot of poise, a lot of effort, but our shots wouldn't fall."

Gossett was excited about his team's good start to this season, with the only loss coming to a team that beat quality teams El Cerrito and Manual Arts.

Harvard Westlake coach Greg Hillard, whose team finished 24-3 last year after losing in the CIF Division III semifinals, said the quality of the teams in this tournament was excellent. Last year, as almost every year, the Berkeley's season ended at the hands of Bishop O'Dowd in the North Coast Section Division I playoffs.

The Jackets won only nine games last season. With at least 19 games remaining this season and

four wins under their belts, it seems likely they be a better team this year.

Berkeley won its first two games of the season against teams from San Francisco, the first a victory over Burton and the second a 94-64 win over McAteer.

Berkeley plays in the Amador Basketball Tournament this week, opening with a rematch against James Logan, a team the Jackets beat 60-40 weeks ago in the third game of the season.

Guterrez, who also scored a team-high 19 in the win over San Mateo, was confident he would play better at Amador than in this tournament. "I can guarantee we're going to take the Jackets to the next level," said Guterrez, a la Chris Webber upon his appearance on David Letterman. "We're going to be a pretty hard."

Gauchos

Continued from page 11
stretches in which we don't. I think that may have to do with the number of different faces who are trying to learn the different offensive sets and stuff like that."

Newcomers Damon Lee and Marcel Davis certainly haven't had much trouble adjusting to El Cerrito's offense.

Lee leads the team in scoring at 15 ppg. while Davis is averaging 11.3 ppg. Raymond King didn't set the tourney on fire but still was named to the all-tourney team along with Davis.

El Cerrito started the classic rather ominously, losing to eventual champion Harvard Westlake at

the buzzer. Jason Collins' five-foot bank shot was the game-winner.

The Gauchos held a 54-44 fourth quarter lead against Harvard Westlake. Guard Ben Robbins keyed the comeback for the winners, scoring 12 of his game-high 20 points in the final period. Robbins buried three three-point shots in the fourth, including one with just under a minute to go, cutting El Cerrito's one-point lead to 63-62.

Lee and King had 14 points each, while Maceo Thomas added 13 and Marcel Davis 12.

El Cerrito followed the loss to Harvard Westlake by defeating Cleveland handily. Lee led all scorers with 18 points. Thomas added 17 points and junior

Mike Seals pulled a team-high nine rebounds.

North of Riverside downed El Cerrito in the finale behind the strength of a 16-8 third quarter which erased a three-point Gauchos halftime lead. Davis had 17 points to lead all scorers Saturday.

"Cleveland was a decent team and we beat them by almost 40 and I didn't think we played that well," said Huber. "I'm still looking for that game in which I'm content with our play."

The non-league schedule doesn't get any easier for El Cerrito as they open the De La Salle Classic today against St. Raymond's of New York. St. Raymond's was ranked in one prep pre-season poll as the 11th-best prep team in the United States.

Game time in Concord is 3:30 p.m.

"It's (the preseason) going to make us be in the long run," said Huber, whose team also won the Eureka Classic, along with non-league wins against Pinole Valley, Montgomery, Berkeley Skyline. "You always want to play against the best competition."

Albany Boys Basketball

Jon Sanger poured in 34 points and 16 rebounds (both career highs) as the Cougars defeated El Cerrito 63-60 a week ago Tuesday. Senior Andrew Patterson tossed in 12 points and Brandon Johnson added 10.

Albany

Continued from page 11
guard Veronica Cursh stole the ball and raced the length of the court for a game-winning basket and a one-point victory.

Ironically, Albany scrimmaged against College Prep and lost by a point, but that won't count on the Cougars' overall record.

Last year Albany lost by more than 30 points to College Prep, so the one-point loss in a scrimmage marked the improvement the team has made in one season.

De Hart said his team played the best quarter ever in the first game against Alhambra, and the Cougars stayed in the game until late in the second half when they ran out of energy.

"We ran out of gas a little, but the girls played well," said De Hart. "They were out there hard pushing it."

The John Swett game was another thing altogether. When he saw his team getting down, De Hart told them he just wanted them to play hard win or lose.

"They don't know quite how to look at the season," said De Hart.

"I want them to play hard, that's all I care about. I'm trying to install that type of attitude. I like to

win, but you've got to have perspective."

Record turnout

This season was the first time Albany had more than enough players: 24 on varsity and junior varsity.

Senior Jessie Wofsy played basketball at Albany her freshman year, but she did not return to the team because it was so poor the last two years.

Wofsy, a 5-foot-11 senior who also plays softball, is back on the team and has contributed as the team's high scorer.

She scored 13 points in the win over Mt. Diablo, 16 points against Beacon and a season-high 18 against Alhambra before falling to nine points against John Swett.

"She has a lot of jumping ability and a fairly good shot," said De Hart of his star senior. "She is intimidating on defense. Once she gets in shape her shooting will be better."

Tamika Harris, a 5-5 junior, is a starting forward, while 5-8 junior forwards Liana Bean and Mahsa Khodabakhsh are platooning at that position.

Cursh, a 5-2 junior point guard, is the quickest player. She plays intense defense, can steal and score. She scored 10 points against Mt. Diablo and

had nine against Alhambra.

Sophomore Lynn Yamamoto and her freshman cousin Mia Yamamoto are both guards. "Lynn is one of the best shooters on the team, although (at 5-2) it is hard for her to get some shots off," said De Hart. "Mia is the youngest player on varsity, but she has the skills to play."

Sophomore Eden King is another 5-2 guard who has skills on defense. "Eden plays intense defense and is probably the most fundamentally sound player on the team," said De Hart. "She has a great attitude."

Among the reserves is 5-8 senior forward/center Willow Banks, who shows a lot of promise and should see some playing time this season.

Sophomore Alena Brown is a 5-7 forward with good rebounding ability, and seniors Cherylyn Gunderson and Akiko Condo are reserve forwards.

De Hart feels a big part of the team's success so far is addition of junior varsity coach Gabrielle Dobel, who played for two years at Mills College in Oakland and coaches at the Stanford summer basketball program.

"She and I have the same basketball philosophies," said De Hart. "We work well together as a team. Gabrielle has been wonderful. My whole idea

is to get the program started for three or four years and let her take it."

De Hart said he took the coaching position because friends and parents of players urged him to apply. He has never coached a team before, although he has played basketball for years and knows the game.

With David Yamamoto helping out as an assistant and Dobel coaching the junior varsity, De Hart feels his team is a winner already.

"The girls are great," said De Hart. "They are nice kids. They are getting into it, beginning to learn the commitment it takes to build a basketball team."

Albany plays in the four-team Convent of the Sacred Heart Tournament this weekend in San Francisco, opening Friday (3:15 p.m. tipoff) against the Mercy Raiders and El Cerrito Lightning.

Convent plays French American in the other semifinals. The first round losers play at noon Saturday in the championship game following at 1:45 p.m.

Albany has one other preseason game, against Berean Christian next week, and then the Cougars have three weeks away from competition before the start of the Alameda Contra Costa Athletic League season.

Soccer

Continued from page 11
threw Hansen and Nick Birnbaum, leading the scoring and the team effort.

The AB Golden Eagles' third and crucial game was played on Sunday morning against the skillful second place EC Earthquakes. The game was fast and fluid. In the first half there were more opportunities created by the Eagles striker Ryan Nelson. The first goal came after 15 minutes of play, a quick shot by Eagles Garin Hecht, surprising the EC goalie.

The Earthquakes fought back

with a goal of their own, three minutes after the Golden Eagles first goal, to tie the game. The goal was a shot that deflected off the Eagles defender, and the ball slowly crossed the goal line, despite the effort of the goalie Nathan Simmons, who otherwise gave a superb performance. The first half finished tied 1-1.

The second half was played with intensity and emotion; the ball was played mostly in the midfield. The AB Golden Eagles scored a second goal 15 minutes into the second half. The ball was

controlled and carried towards the EC Earthquakes goal line by Eagles mid fielders Devin Scott, David Kessler, and Gabriel Manzanarez, weaving through Earthquakes midfielders with well synchronized passes.

At about 20 yards from the goal line, Gabriel Manzanarez placed a perfect pass to Julian Coffman, who was well positioned to pass through the defenders to score the winning goal with a low shot near the post.

The tournament was essentially won at the end of the third game

because the Golden Eagles had accumulated 18 points versus the Earthquakes' 12 points. All that was required to seal the championship was to score one goal in the fourth game against the Barracudas that afternoon.

Ryan Lynch, Danny Yadegar, Brendon Tierney, Matthew Hansen, Nicholas Birnbaum and the rest of the team played excellent soccer. The Golden Eagles were charged and scored 4 goals, sealing the championship with a shutout.

The AB Golden Eagles finished undefeated in first place during the regular season games, winning seven games and tying three.

The regular season teams included the Mercy Raiders and El Cerrito Lightning.

The tournament scores were:

| | | |
|------------------|-----|------------------|
| AB Barracudas | vs. | EC Earthquakes |
| AB Golden Eagles | vs. | WCC Hot Rods |
| EC Cyclones | vs. | AB Barracudas |
| EC Earthquakes | vs. | WCC Hot Rods |
| AB Golden Eagles | vs. | EC Cyclones |
| AB Barracudas | vs. | WCC Hot Rods |
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El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce

By Pat Berndt

New member saves money for customers

You could be losing money by getting a professional to handle your tax return. That's the opinion of one of the Chamber of Commerce's newest members, Adam Tolou-Shams, owner of Kerr's Tax Service at 11818 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito.

"Experience has shown that we really earn our fee by pointing out deductions which most people are not aware of," Tolou-Shams says.

"It's our job to know exactly what's deductible and — more important — what's not deductible. Tax laws are very complicated and really require the assistance of a tax professional. Errors on returns can be very expensive."

As to end-of-the-year tax planning, he advises taxpayers to expect to be in a lower bracket next year to postpone deductible expenses in 1994.

Moreover, in the light of a strong possibility of reduction in capital gains tax, Tolou-Shams suggests taxpayers consider postponement of any late 1994 transaction which results in capital gain.

Over the past seven years Kerr's Tax Service has become involved in the very complex tax aspects of estates and trusts.

"Living trusts that were set up in 1982 should be reviewed," Tolou-Shams warns. "Because of our experience in estate and trust taxation, it has come to our attention that — due to marital deduction rules — it is

important that all pre-1982 living trusts be examined carefully and revisions considered."

Holder of a Ph.D. degree in economics, Tolou-Shams is also an enrolled agent — which permits him to represent his clients before the Internal Revenue Service in cases where an audit has been conducted. In fact, all of the local firm's tax consultants are enrolled agents.

Tolou-Shams brings a wealth of experience to his job as head of Kerr's Tax Service.

In September of 1979 he left his post as professor of economics at Tehran University in Iran to come to UC-Berkeley as a visiting scholar.

A year later, he got involved in tax preparation and planning, and in 1991 — after several years with Kerr's — he bought the business.

In 1993 Tolou-Shams purchased the building on San Pablo Avenue and moved Kerr's Tax Service into its present location.

In addition to tax preparation and estate and trust planning, the firm also offers a bookkeeping and payroll service.

A very interesting program was heard at the Nov. 28 business luncheon meeting of the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce when Captain David Gibson of the El Cerrito Fire Department spoke on "Disaster Preparedness in the Business and Home."

Gibson emphasized the need for emergency supplies such as water; non-perishable foods for

three days; flashlight with batteries; portable radio with batteries; first aid kit, extra pair of glasses, whistle, heavy jackets, blankets, etc.

He emphasized that he will help businesses and residents to determine their needs, and one may reach him through 215-4450.

A very successful Membership Mixer was recently hosted Nov. 30 by Kent and Kathy Ochs at World Slots, located at 6317 Fairmount Ave.

Members and guests were treated to a very interesting evening looking at the many and varied antique slot machines the Ochs have in their place of business, with everyone welcome to play (no money involved).

Prizes were won by President Rena Bruton, a three-day stay at the Sands in Reno; and wine won by Russ Malboubi, First Mortgage; Joe Pena, Post Newspapers; and Bryan Kravitz and Dieder Cerkowicz of The Channel publication.

Members and guests are invited to the Dec. 16 business luncheon meeting, which will be a champagne buffet at noon at the Cerrito City Club. Reservations are required by Dec. 14 by calling staff at 233-7040. The cost is \$11.50 per person. The business on the agenda will be the election of officers.

Michael Klinger, nominating committee chair, has announced the following nominees for the El Cerrito Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors election for 1995-96, with 13 to be elected: June Boblitt*, Full Circle Travel; Jack Freethy, El Cerrito Mill & Lumber; Vera Boyovich*, California Federal Bank; U.S. Barbachano*, architect, retired;



Adam Tolou-Shams, Ph.D. (center) of Kerr's Tax Service is welcomed to membership by chamber manager Sewall Ginter (right) and Mayor Pro Tem Norman LaForce (left).

Rich Weyeneth*, More Car Co.; Pa. Malailua*, The Mechanics Bank; Larry Sanchez*, Marvin Collins Construction; Bill Kerber*, Freeway Motel; Harry Kiefer*, Kiefer's; John Maddox, Mira Vista Tire and Brake; John Connors, Connors Overhead Door; Marcia Schwartz, Mason-McDuffie Real Estate; Bob Smoot, Stand Up Comics; and Douglas DeSalvo, DeSalvo Chiropractic. (* incumbents)

Twelve directors have one year remaining on their two-year term '94-'95: Sil Addiego, Locators Real Estate; Rena Bruton, Bank of the West; Blair Burton, Attorney, retired; Michael Klinger, Sunset View Cemetery

Association: Verne Odlin, Long Filmslide Service; John Olivero, Olivero Plumbing; Larry Seidell, Seidell Chevron Service; Charlie Weaver, CPA; Robert Yao, Bank of America; Bea Doherty, Doherty's Truck and Auto Rental; and Russ Malboubi, First Mortgage, completing term for Fred Bunzel, who resigned due to business closure.

Ballots will be in mail next week to all members in good standing, with 1994 dues paid. Members are urged to mark the ballot and return in the envelope provided, to the chamber office, by Dec. 14. Board election results and the election of officers will be on the agenda at the Dec. 16

meeting and holiday luncheon.

Details of a law requiring all El Cerrito merchants with a fixed place of business to develop special recycling areas by June 30, 1995, will go out soon to local businesses.

This information — along with many other waste management tidbits — will be included in a special package scheduled to be sent out by the El Cerrito Recycling Center sometime in early December.

When this information packet is received, the Chamber urges all merchants to give it their close attention.

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list of participating merchants call Senior Services at 215-4342 or stop by the office at 6500 Stockton Ave.

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A place in time

The magnificent curtain

The following is part of a series of stories written by Albany Adult School students who are participating in a "WritingMemoirs" class taught by Carla Harkness at the Albany Senior Center.

By Howard Hein

It was 0800 on a cold June 12 morning in 1945. The thick fog hung like a giant curtain over the two majestic orange towers of the Golden Gate Bridge while our large gray troop transport moved slowly underneath. On deck was the happiest and most excited crowd of Marines and sailors I had ever seen. We were returning to the States, home after three years in the South Pacific. Nobody was below deck that didn't have to be.

I had bragged to all my out-of-state friends about the beautiful San Francisco weather and then we were met by this cold foggy morning! The moaning of the fog horns could be heard in the distance and the light from Point Bonita lighthouse was visible off the port bow.

Behind the lighthouse stood the high steep grass- and tree-covered hills of Forts Cronkhite and Barry, standing like giant guardians on the north shore, challenging all incoming ships to the Bay. Each was covered with concrete skeletons of old-time Coast Artillery gun batteries,

but the outdated guns had been removed years ago.

As though guarding the Golden Gate from the south shore, there stood old Fort Point under the bridge with its castle-like structure, styled after Fort Sumter. The Fort's gun ports seemed to be closely watching as our ship cut through the fog and entered the Bay. I later learned there was a 3-inch gun battery and searchlight detachment in Fort Point during World War II and at this time.

After we entered San Francisco Bay, the foggy curtain started to lift. We were met by beautiful bright sunlight coming over the Berkeley hills, reflected by the silver and white skyscrapers of San Francisco off to the right. Hard to the starboard were the immaculate grounds and Spanish-style buildings of the Presidio of San Francisco.

About that time, we were approached on the starboard side by a small cabin cruiser. It was the harbor pilot coming aboard to steer our ship around the Embarcadero and alongside one of the long wooden docks. Our ship tied up at Pier 27 with the help of a powerful tugboat. On the wharf below, the huge crowd cheered as a Navy band played stirring military music and lighter tunes like "San Francisco, Here We Come"—a song we had been sing-

ing aboard the ship for days. "Twereeeeee - Now hear this! All Marine returnees will stand by to disembark in five minutes and board the waiting ferryboat for Treasure Island," the troop commander boomed over the loudspeaker.

After a short ride from San Francisco to the naval base, we were assigned barracks for the night. In the morning we would board a train for the San Diego Marine Base, but for the next three hours we were free to wander around Treasure Island.

Most of the men rushed for the public telephones. Fortunately, the Navy had a good communications building that could accommodate many telephone users at one time.

Anxious and excited, I heard my mother's voice on the other end. Of all the family affected by my being away in the Marine Corps — including myself — I am sure my mother suffered the most.

"Hello." It was Mom's warm voice that I had dreamed of hearing for so long.

I casually asked, "Well, are the milk and chocolate-coated graham crackers (my favorites) ready?"

Mom sounded confused, "Who is this?"

"It's me, Howard, and I'm here at Treasure Island."

"Oh, Howard, is it really you?" Mom asked with a catch in her voice. "Howard, we've missed you so much. Are you home to stay?"

"Mom, we are only here for the night and then we have to go down to San Diego. Is there anyone there that can bring you over, like

Francis?" I asked eagerly. Francis, my second-oldest sister, came on the line.

"For Peety sakes! Hi, Howie! Poor Mom's so excited she can hardly talk and had to sit down. When are we going to see you?" Francis asked in a happy voice.

It sounded so good to hear her and Mom's voices I could hardly handle the excitement! "Francis, can you bring Mom over and meet me at the main guard gate to the Treasure Island Naval Base in about half an hour?"

"Sure, and you be watching for us, okay?" Francis replied.

I knew that, with such a short notice, none of the other family members would be able to come because of their jobs. I hung the phone up and walked over to the gate area.

As I sat there waiting for them to arrive, I thought about Mom. She was always a beautiful person and now, at 58, stood about 5 feet 2 inches tall, portly and very jolly. Raised on a cattle ranch in Arkansas, Mom was the third-oldest in a family of nine children — three girls and six boys with a very strict father and a loving mother. Mom would do anything for her five children, of which I was the youngest by 10 or more years.

Then there was my sister Francis, who was 10 years older than me. Now 32, Francis was 5 feet 6 inches tall with a slender build. She was both beautiful and intelligent, and had practically raised me as a child when Mom was busy. Now she had two children of her own.

About 35 minutes after the phone call, a mysterious, shiny red Buick convertible that I had never seen (three years makes a big difference!) cruised through the gate, carrying Mom and Francis. They pulled over into the parking area where we could talk. Just to see them from a distance — faces I had missed tremendously every minute of those three years — filled me with happiness. How good it was to hug and kiss both of them!

We spent the next hour or so talking and reminiscing. The car belonged to Francis' brother-in-law, who was overseas in the Sea Bees. I assured them that once we arrived at San Diego, I would be processed and given a month's leave to come home and visit with all of the family.

Before I knew it, those three hours had flown by and I was due back at the barracks. We said our goodbyes and parted.

While overseas, I had enjoyed letters, written by friends who had returned to the States, that described the thrill of coming home. I used to dream of that day. This was the fulfillment of that dream and I will never forget that wonderful feeling!

Howard R. Hein, 71, was raised in Berkeley. In 1954 he and his wife Sally moved to their present home in Albany, where they raised their six children. He served in the Marine Corps for four years in World War II and one year in the Korean conflict.

Unusual Christmas at Christian Center

Strange Way to Save the World is a drama with music, presented Sunday, Dec. 18, at the El Cerrito Christian Center, 233-3383.

Written and directed by Carol Lee Doring, the cast consists of El Cerrito, Pinole and San Pablo residents. The play is a comedy-drama with a great deal of some new, some old, and those of all ages.

The title Strange Way to Save the World is taken from the Christmas album of the full singing group, 4Hills, several awards for their music as musicians and composers.

The play opens in a church where the choir is preparing quilts for the poor and concludes with the Nativity Scene (re-enactment of Christmas).

It is not the usual Christmas as it was written specifically for those of El Cerrito, Pinole and San Pablo residents who bring to the stage some of the most delightful and scintillating characters. Admission is free; there is an offering taken, but more information please call 3383.

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Life's a sport, fitness happens

By Shellie Onstead

Bill Clinton promotes it, Oprah Winfrey lives by it, Sylvester Stallone made a living at it and Arnold Schwarzenegger is best known for it. Fitness is a part of

their daily lives and it shows. I would be willing to bet that most of these folks got interested in sports, and therefore fitness, at an early age.

What's the point? We desperately need fitness to be a regular part of our American lifestyle. It is my belief that sports and fitness are related. If you become interested in a sport or fitness, you are more likely to be a continuing fitness participant. You become the "weekend warrior," the slo-pitch pro, the in-line skater, the Half-Dome hiker, the nine-holer.

Why is this so important? The American public faces a pervasive lack of health that is underscored by our current struggle with adequate healthcare. The fact is that an enormous segment of our population is aging simultaneously. Two-thirds of the men and women WHO EVER LIVED past the age of 65 are alive today. Advanced medicine has succeeded in creating old people. Now that we have seen a significant decrease in acute disease, we face the fact that an estimated 30 million Americans are at risk for some type of chronic disease in 1995.

The key to keeping this large segment of our population healthy is not pharmacological. It is fitness. That means intelligent eating, moderate alcohol consumption, no tobacco intake and, most important, some participation in an activity that results in personal enjoyment. Notice that the goal is not the perfect body or shape. You don't need a personal trainer, nor is it necessary to look like Arnold. It is more a feeling of fitness that will lead to good health.

The good news is that although it is easier to continue a fit lifestyle if you start early, recent studies have proven that it is certainly NEVER too late to start. Thus anyone, at any age, can reap the immediate benefits of exercise.

Shellie Onstead is the General Manager of the Courthouse Athletic Club in Oakland. 834-5600

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Director Beth Jahn founded Danspace in 1978, a lengthy dance career in New York and Los Angeles included dancing and teaching at the metropolitan Opera. Her teaching philosophy, from the conviction that confidence and self-promotes future learning and happiness in life.

Danspace is located 3 blocks from Rockridge BART, 473 Hudson St., near Comstock Oakland. Call (510) 420-0920 for a schedule and information.


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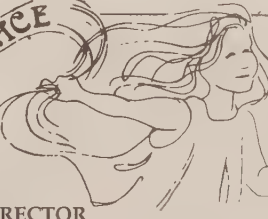
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Charles Lloyd: a higher quest

The tenor sax master has more than once retreated from his career, only to be drawn back.

by Charles Levin

Whatever happened to tenor saxophonist Charles Lloyd? You remember him—the man who stole the show at the Monterey Jazz Festival 28 years ago. His performance, captured on the record *Forest Flower*, jettisoned Lloyd to international acclaim. The record also sold more than one million copies (the first jazz record to do so), received FM rock airplay and got Lloyd booked at the Fillmore West with acts like Jimi Hendrix and Cream. It also introduced audiences to his three then-little-known backup musicians: pianist Keith Jarrett, bassist Cecil McBee and drummer Jack DeJohnette.

Lloyd returned triumphantly to Monterey in September 1993 to give reviews. Next Tuesday he begins a six-night run at Yoshi's NiteSpot backed by pianist Cedar Walton's trio (David Williams, Billy Higgins, drums).

A lot has transpired, however, since the 55-year-old tenor titan gave his epic Monterey session. In 1969, Lloyd had achieved success a jazz artist could only dream of. But fame, fortune and hard touring had worn on him, and with the passing of his mother, he felt mortality knocking, and decided to seek more personal pastures for introspection.

"I wanted to get together with my inner self," said Lloyd in a recent interview last year from his home near Santa Barbara. "Everyone at some time in their life must look into solitude. I'd read my fantasies, played with my musicians and lived in New

York. (But) it was clear to me that it was a time for inner reflection."

Lloyd fled his home in New York for Malibu but eventually retreated in 1973 to monklike obscurity in Big Sur for 15 years. He devoted time to Eastern religion, discovering new sages like Rama Krishna and Vivekananda. For nearly 10 years, he barely emerged other than for a rare performance or record date. But when French pianist Michel Petrucci (then a 17-year-old prodigy) appeared at his doorstep in 1981, he said "it was providence calling."

Jazz

"I never thought I would go back and play in public," said Lloyd, who decided to tour the world with the young virtuoso. "(But) I got bit by the cobra again. I realized (music is) what I do. You can go to the mountain-top, but you have to come back down to the towns. Then I went back to the cave and realized I couldn't stay in the cave."

A near-death experience in 1986—a rare birth defect that led to a severe intestinal disorder—reinvigorated his passion for music once again, and he pursued his career with a full head of steam.

Fish Out of Water, Lloyd's 1988 ECM release, introduced the world to his new and ongoing collaboration with Swedish pianist Bobo Stenson. The two teamed up again for *Notes From Big Sur*, again on ECM, but this time joined by bassist Anders

Jormin and drummer Ralph Peterson. (Lloyd has released two new records this year: *the Call* on ECM and *Acoustic Masters* on Atlantic with Walton, Williams and Higgins. In June, Atlantic/Rhino re-released *Forest Flower: Live at Monterey and Dreamweaver*.)

"I've always had this love affair with getting together a group of musicians with broad tastes and creativity, playing in the now, that draw on a collective kind of awareness or ability to transcend the notion of limited self," he says. "And it's easiest to do that in a quartet."

Notes resonates with a relaxed, almost languid flow of ideas that Lloyd says reflects his spiritual interests ("there's something deeper in the tone, a distillation of the essence of Big Sur"). The muscular sound is still there, but Yoshi's audiences will also get a dose of the powerhouse ideas that have led many to compare Lloyd to John Coltrane.

His appearance two years ago at the New York Newport Jazz Festival's Coltrane tribute left no doubt about this for those who saw him performing with ex-Trane alumni McCoy Tyner on piano and Elvin Jones on drums.

His performance was called the highlight of the festival by many critics. Peter Watrous of the New York Times said: "In his mixture of blues phrases, classical exercise quotations, howls and screams and gentle melodic sensibility, Mr. Lloyd has come up with a strange and beautiful distillation of the American experience, part abandoned and wild,



Charles Lloyd plays Tuesday through Sunday of next week at Yoshi's NiteSpot.

part immensely controlled and sophisticated."

Not bad for the man who grew up in Memphis, picked up his first horn, an alto, at age 9 and played with blues artists like Junior Parker, Bobby "Blue" Bland and B.B. King a year later. But Lloyd also embraced the jazz lexicon of Trane, Charlie Parker, Coleman Hawkins and Lester Young.

Lloyd was encouraged by a family that valued education, and after high school he attended the University of Southern California, where he pursued classical music.

"At first when I was young, I was very moved by the modern guys: Stravinsky, Berg, Bartok, Webern, Debussy," says Lloyd.

"And then as I got deeper into it, I began to realize that Bach was pure transcendence from the get go."

He chose USC over Julliard on a romantic notion, wanting to study with Bartok expert Halsey Stevens. "I had this huge quest to know all there is to know about music," he recalled. However, the experience disappointed him.

"It wasn't open," recalls Lloyd who received a master's in music in 1960. "It didn't have the juice, the force, the compassion. It was too sterile for me. I found the other community, and that became my school."

The "other community" was the jazz underground of Los Angeles where Lloyd gigged regularly with Ornette Coleman,

Bobby Hutcherson, Don Cherry, Scott LaFaro and Eric Dolphy.

Today, Lloyd stays very busy, touring the United States and abroad. Yet with intensity of his schedule, he admits that he pauses occasionally to recharge his batteries.

"I love music," said Lloyd. "It's always inspired my life, led me to a higher quest (and) the whole notion of peace and love in our lives."

Charles Lloyd performs Tuesday, Dec. 13, through Sunday, Dec. 18, with the Cedar Walton Trio at Yoshi's NiteSpot, 6030 Claremont Ave., Oakland; 652-9200. Shows are at 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. every night. Tickets are \$18 Tuesday, to Thursday, and \$20 Friday to Sunday.

The Nutcracker—however you like it

Four local companies interpret the Christmas classic

The onslaught of performances of *Messiah* has fallen off this year, with only the Berkeley Community Chorus performing a piece on this side of the Bay, and the *Nutcracker* competition remains fierce, with productions from Oakland Ballet, Berkeley City Ballet, Berkeley Ballet Theater and the Dance Brigade. The first to perform to the Tchaikovsky score, the Dance Brigade uses an

original score, and the production is a radical reinterpretation of the E.T.A. Hoffmann tale.

Here's a brief rundown on the four productions, each of which has its distinct charms.

Oakland Ballet

Oakland Ballet is, of course, the premier dance company in the East Bay (and arguably in the Bay Area), and its *Nutcracker*, by the

company's artistic director, Ronn Guidi, was first introduced in 1973. It has been seen and praised all over the country since then. It includes 19 backdrops and many hand-held and freestanding props.

In recent years, the production has been notable for the gimmicks added to one or more performances, notably the appearance by Oakland A's manager Tony La Russa and members of

his team. Instead of players, La Russa will be joined by TV newscasters Terilyn Joe (KGO), Doug Murphy (KPIX), Dennis Richmond (KTVU) et al. for the Dec. 16 performance only.

Judy Tyrus, a principal with the Dance Theatre of Harlem, will dance the Sugar Plum Fairy and other roles in the four performances on Dec. 22-24.

More than 300 young dancers ages 6 to 16 will perform with the company during the run, 15 to 20 in each performance, as toy soldiers and in the "Mother Ginger" divertissement in act II. They come from the East Bay Dance Center, the Oakland Ballet Academy and eight other training companies.

Performances, all at the Paramount Theatre and all accompanied live by the Oakland East Bay Symphony conducted by Jean-Louis LeRoux, are Dec. 9 (7 p.m.), 10 (2 p.m. and 7 p.m.), 11 (2 p.m.), 16 (7 p.m.), 17 (2 p.m. and 7 p.m.), 18 (2 p.m.), 20 (10:30 a.m.), 21 (10:30 a.m.), 22 (7 p.m.), 23 (2 p.m. and 7 p.m.) and 24 (11 a.m.). Tickets are \$5 to \$35. Sweet Dreams parties follow matinees and cost \$7. All seats for the morning shows are \$10. Call 465-6400 or 762-BASS.

Berkeley City Ballet

Berkeley City Ballet presents its 21st annual *Nutcracker*, and its 13th at UC-Berkeley's Zellerbach Hall. The scenery for acts I and II is by Ron Steger, who also designed the sets and props for Oakland Ballet's version.

The production depicts the French Empire period of the early 19th century, and it features a Christmas tree that grows huge on stage.

The BCB's principal dancer, Xiao Ping Liu-Moore, performs the Sugar Plum Fairy; Liu-Moore is a former principal with the Beijing Dance Academy. Sam Weber, who received the New York Dance Critics Award, is a guest in

See NUTCRACKER on page 17



Above: Members of the cast of Berkeley Ballet Theater's *Nutcracker*. Below: Chantler Townsend in the Arabian Dance from Berkeley City Ballet's *Nutcracker*.



Left: Cynthia Chin and Joral Schmale as the Sugar Plum Fairy and Cavalier in Oakland Ballet's *Nutcracker*.



East Bay Events This Week

A couple of choral groups

Pacific Mozart Ensemble opens season

The **Pacific Mozart Ensemble** is the equal of any small chorus in the world. It opens its season Sunday with a program of 20th-century liturgical music. The program comprises a modern arrangement of Handel's "And He Shall Purify," Bernstein's *Missa Brevis*, Poulenc's *Litanies à la Vierge Noire*, Biehl's *Ave Maria* and Martin's *Messe pour double chœur a cappella*. The concert is at 5 p.m. Sunday at the First Congregational Church, 2345 Channing Way (at Dana), Berkeley. Tickets are \$15 (\$10 seniors/students). Call (415) 585-3750 for reservations.

Voci sings music for treble voices

The **Voci Chamber Chorus** is comprised of women from around the Bay Area, led by **Mitchell Covington**, music director at Berkeley's First Presbyterian Church. The group presents "Rejoice! Rejoice! Music in Celebration of Christmas," with choral works by Healey Willan, Durufle, Debussy, Byrd and Rutter. It's on Saturday at 8 p.m. at St. John's Presbyterian Church, 2727 College Ave., Berkeley. Tickets are \$9 (\$5 seniors/students), at the door. Call 525-4056 for details.

Sacred and Profane joins forces with Westwind Folk Ensemble

Sacred and Profane, a chamber chorus directed by **Susan Swerdlow**, performs two concerts of music from Italy and Eastern Europe, with the help of the **Westwind International Folk Ensemble**, directed by **Hilary Roberts**. Westwind explores folk traditions through dance, instrumental music, song and storytelling. The chorus will sing liturgical music in Latin and Hebrew from Renaissance Italy, choral works by Rachmaninoff and Stravinsky, and carols from the Ukraine and Latvia. With Westwind, they'll perform a Croatian folk suite, and dances and songs from Croatia and Bulgaria. The concerts are Wednesday at 8 p.m. and the following Sunday, Dec. 18, at 3 p.m., both at the Hillside Club, 2286 Cedar St., Berkeley. Tickets are \$10 to \$15, depending on your age and when you buy. Call 524-3611 for details.

Jessica Williams, Dick Whittington at the Maybeck

Dave Brubeck called **Jessica Williams** "one of the greatest jazz pianists I have ever heard."

She'll be playing solos as well as duets with pianist **Dick Whittington** in a two-piano recital Sunday at 4 p.m. at the Maybeck Recital Hall, 1537 Euclid Ave., Berkeley.

Tickets are \$20. Call 848-3228 for reservations.

Kensington Symphony plays the 'Eroica'

The **Kensington Symphony Orchestra**, conducted by **Lloyd Elliott**, will play at 7 p.m. Sunday at the First Unitarian Church, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. The program includes Piston's *Brass Fanfare*, Weber's Concertino for Oboe and Winds (with oboist **Moira Little**), Vaughan Williams' *Flos Campi* for Viola, Chorus and Orchestra, and Beethoven's Symphony No. 3. Tickets are \$8 (\$6 seniors; kids under 13 free). Call 234-9529 for more details.

Andre Watts plays a benefit for Romania

Piano superstar **Andre Watts** will play two rondos by Mozart, two scherzos by Schubert, Beethoven's "Appassionata" sonata, Janacek's Sonata "IX.1905," Debussy's *Estampes* and Chopin's Ballade No. 1. The program is a benefit for a church in Romania, as well as for the church where the recital takes place—First Unitarian Church, 1 Lawson Road, Kensington. The recital is at 8 p.m. Saturday. Suggested donations are at least \$20. Tickets may be limited. Call 841-7817 for details.

Renaissance and Baroque Xmas

The ensemble **Hausmusik** (Merry Dennehy, soprano; Eileen Haddidan, recorder and flute; Sally Butt, violin; Robert Strizich, lute and guitar; Julie Jeffrey, viola da gamba) presents "In Jubilo! A Celebration of Christmas," with music from Mexico and Guatemala, and Renaissance and traditional carols from England, Scotland and Ireland.

The concert is at 8 p.m. Saturday at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1501 Washington St., Albany. Tickets are \$14 to \$16. Call 524-5661 for reservations.

Music for harp, guitar, flute, oboe

The Friday Night Harp Series presents "Tales for a Winter's Night"—stories, songs and music for the season played on harps, guitar, flute and oboe by **Margaret & Kristoph, Mitch Landy and Wendolyn Bird**.

The program is at 8 p.m. tomorrow at New Pieces, 1597 Solano Ave., Berkeley. Call 527-6779 for ticket information. No babies.

Rock dance/concert at Starry Plough

The **Starry Plough** is hosting a rock dance/concert to benefit a gardening project for the children of Berkeley organized by **Children's Light**. It features the **Sam Andrews Band** (Sam Andrews was part of Big Brother and the Holding Company) and **Shadow Government**.

The benefit takes place from 8 p.m. to midnight on Sunday. Admission is \$5. Call 874-4986 for more details.

More events on p. 17

'Junior': a one-joke movie that works

The premise of a male pregnancy sounds unfunny, but it provides some touching moments.

By Basil De Pinto

Sometimes in the movies an inherently silly idea is redeemed by other factors: visual beauty, let's say, as in the recent *Only You*. Strong personalities do the trick in Ivan Reitman's *Junior*, which reprises the incongruousness of a partnership between Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito.

Movies

By now, thanks to an aggressive advertising campaign, everybody knows that Dr. Alex Hesse (Schwarzenegger) gets pregnant as part of a medical experiment he is conducting with his partner, Dr. Larry Arbogast (DeVito).

The experiment originally involved merely providing a drug to insure safe pregnancies, but cutoff of funding causes the two doctors to engage in a bold attempt to go it on their own.

Unwittingly, a newcomer to the lab, Dr. Diana Reddin (Emma Thompson), is drawn into their work. The complication is the combination of Hesse's pregnancy and the growing attraction between him and Reddin.

Unlikely as the premise is, the contrasts among the three characters and their gradual awakening to newer kinds of life experience make for a situation which is not only funny but at times humanly touching.

It also helps that a scarcely believable situation is aided by innuendo and double meaning in the lines. All this is predictable enough; what is surprising is that the single-joke format manages to stay alive (barely) for the two hours running time.

This is due in no small part to DeVito's vivacity and also to that of Pamela Reed in a small role that goes a long way in filling out a rather thin script.

Reed plays Arbogast's wife, Angela. The two have been divorced, but she is pregnant (don't ask), and still wants Arbogast to be her doctor because she has such confidence in his medical skill.

This subplot is dispensable but adds enormously to the enjoyment of the goings-on, adding just the right measure of comic complexity.

The disparity in physical size and ethnic origin of the two male stars brought success to *Twins*, another one-joke movie. The



Arnold Schwarzenegger and Danny DeVito play researchers who test a pregnancy drug.

clash works even better here, where they share a common professional instead of familial framework.

Only slightly less improbable than the Schwarzenegger-DeVito pairing is the presence of Thompson. Troupeur that she is, Thompson in no way suggests that she is slumming, despite her award-winning performances in more serious films.

But the role is basically a cipher, needlessly padded with klutzy physical behavior that has nothing to do with its function in the plot. Thompson doesn't so much interpret a role as create it

out of practically nothing. Give her an A plus and the screenwriters a C minus. But she has a genuine comic flair and she radiates intelligence, no matter how dumb the things she is asked to do.

Schwarzenegger is a Johnny-one-note kind of actor, but under Reitman's direction he does manage to suggest the enlightening quality of being pregnant. From a dour, unsociable scientist, Hesse becomes sensitive and excited over the transforming wonder taking place in his body.

DeVito is one of our most unsuited actors, but he does have the capacity of stopping just

before going over the edge.

He is the most unlikable man you ever met in a movie, but he fits the image of the doctor as a man. This above all, to the fee scale be true.

Junior could have been better, but it turns out to be a effort with some bright spots provided by Thompson.

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SailSun (11:45, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:15)
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SailSun (11:45, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:15)

CALIFORNIA
2113 Kensington Ave. (Berkeley) • 842-1111
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HOOP DREAMS (12:40, 4:40)
PULP FICTION • Dolby (12:20, 2:30, 5:00, 7:10, 10:10)
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4186 Piedmont at 17th (Oakland) • 842-1111
BULLETS OVER BROADWAY (12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:30, 9:45)
THE SANTA CLAUSE (12:15, 2:45, 5:00, 7:15, 9:30)
THE PROFESSIONAL • English (12:30, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:05)
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HEAVENLY CREATURES • Dolby (12:30, 2:40, 5:00, 7:20, 9:35)
LION KING • Dolby (12:30, 2:50, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00, 10:00)
THE SANTA CLAUSE (1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 10:00)
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Sunday, December 11
Live music at 8:45
THE KINGDOM OF YETI • 2:45
9:45 plus AUX CAJUNES • 10:00
Regular Admission: Shows after 10:00
General Admission: 8:00, 8:00, 8:00
Monday, December 12
MARK OF THE VAMPIRE • 9:40
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Bob Vaughn live at 7:00 only
Tuesday, December 13
IMAGINARY CRIMES • 2:50, 7:00
plus SECOND BEST • 9:15
In person at 7:00 show: Reeltime
Ballroom and screening: 10:00
Wednesday, December 14
PUB NOIR: THE BIG SLEEP • 9:40
plus THE MALTESE FALCON • 10:10
Thursday, December 15
Jackie Chan • ANGEL • 10:00
plus WHEELS ON MEALS • 10:10
Dec. 16-20 • Russ Meyer's
FASTER, PUSSYCATT! • 10:00
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Nutcracker

continued from page 15
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lege Ave., Berkeley.

performances are Dec. 10, 11,
12, at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. all
days. Tickets are \$12
for children, students and
seniors. Call 843-4689.

year, our reviewer wrote

of this production, "Part of my
enjoyment came from seeing the
adjustments (artistic director
Sally) Streets and (Robert)
Nichols made to the original
Hoffmann story to accommodate
the location. The results were
commendable.

"In this version, Clara and her
feisty brother, Fritz, are homeless
street waifs. With a blanket
against the cold, they watch a
family visiting Drosselmayer
(who) invites them in."

"The production really works
and works well," our reviewer
concluded.

The Dance Brigade

It's not clear that *The Revolution-
ary Nutcracker Sweetie*
belongs in an article about *Nut-
cracker* performances, but in case
you want a complete change of
pace from the traditional, the
Dance Brigade's production may

be for you. The company is a
highly political one, with a style
somewhat like the Red Brigade
cultural troupes. The Dance
Brigade has many enthusiastic
supporters, and this production is
anything but ordinary.

Jazz pianist Mary Watkins has
integrated American and Latin
jazz rhythms into Tchaikovsky's
melodies, adding original mater-
ial and Mexican and Irish themes;
the score is performed by the
American Jazz Theater, con-
ducted by Nan Washburn.

The piece is choreographed by
Nina Fichter and Krissy Keefer,
artistic co-directors of the com-
pany, with guest choreographers
Terry Sendgraff and Kim Epifano.

Included in the cast of 50 are
members of Joint Forces, a
disabled dance company from
Eugene, Ore.; Baneloop mem-
bers Heather Baer and Emilia
Rudolph as corn husk dolls; and

Ben Carter in the role of the
African doll. Suzanne Naka-
mura performs the role of
the Angel of Resistance;
Krissy Keefer is the Sugar
Plum Fairy.

Quoting the press materi-
als, "The *Nutcracker*
Sweetie opens at the home
of the McGreeds, the richest
folks in town, who are host-
ing their annual upper-class
holiday bacchanal. Who
should arrive uninvited on a
motorcycle but their radical
daughter Drosselmayer."

Performances are Dec. 16
(8 p.m.), 17 (2 p.m. and 8
p.m.) and 18 (2 p.m. and 8
p.m.) at the Scottish Rite
Theater, 1547 Lakeside
Drive, Oakland. Tickets are
\$14.50 in advance, \$16 at
the door, \$11 for children
under 12, seniors and the
disabled. Call 762-BASS.



David Maung

The Dance Brigade's 'Revolution-
ary Nutcracker Sweetie' is in a
class by itself.

**Events, continued
from page 16****Rock en Español**

La Peña Cultural Center pre-
sents "La Rockolita," alternative
rock en español, featuring the
groups *Orixá* and *La Bohemia*
and DJ dance music. It begins at
9 p.m. tomorrow at La Peña, 3105
Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. Admis-
sion is \$6. All ages welcome.

**Prometheus
Symphony**

The *Prometheus Sym-
phony* plays Schumann's Sym-
phony No. 3 and shorter works by
Bach and Prokofiev at 3 p.m.
Sunday at John Muir School,
2955 Claremont Ave. at Ashby,
Berkeley. The concert is free.

DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

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Customer Comment, Best of the East Bay Edition
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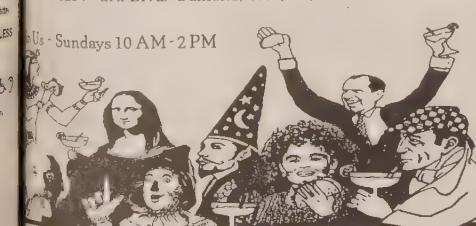
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OUT and ABOUT
By Frosene Phillips

Piedmont Avenue, Oakland's established quaint neighborhood shop-
ping area, has a new addition. Le Boulanger Bakery and Cafe has
opened in the former Long's location at 4039 Piedmont Ave. Specializ-
ing in fresh baked breads including croissants, muffins, and danish as
well as sandwiches, soups and coffees, the Le Boulanger operation now
totals 16 locations from Sunnyvale to Walnut Creek with more in store.

The company is in its 13th year of operation, however, it's begin-
nings are inspired and traced back to Paul Brunello. As a teenager,
Brunello left Venice, Italy, and opened his first bakery in 1922. Twenty-
five years later, he moved his family to the Bay Area and opened a
bakery in Palo Alto. His son Roger later joined the business, followed by
another son Dan. Roger's son, Scott, also joined the operation increasing
the generational span.

Bread is baked daily at each location with leftover breads donated to
food banks and charities throughout the Bay Area. "We sell nothing
from the previous day," says Roger Brunello.

Off to an enthusiastic start, the Piedmont Avenue location was dec-
orated with balloons and enjoyed a lively crowd.

★ ★ ★

WEEKEND SCENE: Gerald Albright featuring Lalah Hathaway at
Kimball's East...Radiante Friday and Romance Tentacion Saturday at
Kimball's Carnival...Opera Night with Charmagne Belle and Ann Oliver
Saturday at the Courtyard...Frank Biner and His Soul Patrol in the Sports
Edition Bar at the Oakland Airport Hilton...Blues Man Bolden Band
Friday and Joyce Cooling Band Saturday at the Baltic... Jermaine &
Terra and Gary Newman at the Fat Lady.

Ray Barretto and New World Spirit at Yoshi's Nitespot... Jessica Wil-
liams and Dick Whittington Sunday at the Maybeck Recital Hall...Jack
Eskridge and Spencer Chan Sunday at Crogan's Walnut Creek...Jim
Brown at Scott's...Fredrico Cervantes at the Overland
House...Hollywood & Co. with Beverly Watson Friday and Lloyd Greg-
ory & Friends Saturday at the 5th Amendment...Terrell Prude and the
Yancey Taylor Quartet Friday and the Yancey Taylor Quartet Saturday
at Elsin's Via Veneto.

★ ★ ★

COMEDY SCENE: Caroline Rhea and Alex Reid at the Punch Line
Walnut Creek...Craig Shoemaker and Larry Amerose at Tommy T's San
Ramon... SAN FRANCISCO: Dave Attell and Lank & Earl at the
Punch Line... Clinton Jackson and Mike Meehan at Cobb's Comedy
Club.



Le Boulanger Bakery and Cafe is now open on Piedmont Avenue.

GRAND OPENING!

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the bread
is baked.**

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|--|---|

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Dear Santa



Every Christmas they pour into the Oakland Post Office by the thousands: kids' letters to Santa Claus. And every Christmas we print a few for you to read — or even answer, if you want.

(For information on how to do it, see the accompanying sidebar.)

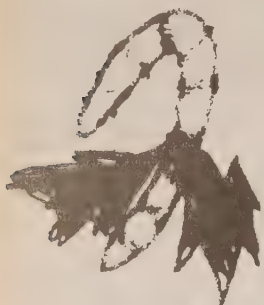
But these are just the tip of the iceberg. Even as you read this, Consumer Affairs Manager Elma Ramirez and her "elves" — Margarita Wilensky, Ruby Nieves, Olivia Marcus, Lisa Alaniz, John Orr, David Thompson, Barbara Shaeffer, Tammy Lopez, Birdie Coleman, Party Pollard, Janet Ezell, Teresa Lopez and Randy McDevitt Parks — are busy sorting thousands more.

One warning: A few make pretty grim reading. It isn't easy to witness a child in pain.

"We have to rotate people every hour," says Ramirez. "That's about as long as you can take without breaking down. Just yesterday I found Tammy in tears over a letter from a poor kid, and I had to tell her, 'Tammy, better do something else for a while.'"

But whether they're heartwarming or heartbreaking (or just plain hilarious), these letters and their simple faith are the true meaning of Christmas:

— Martin Snapp



"Dear Santa,
My name is Alex. My daddy's name is Daddy. My mommy's name is Mommy. I will leave you milk and cookies, and carrots for your reindeers.

Love, Alex" (Oakley)

"Querido Santa,
Somos Pobres. Mi papa no hace mucho dinero. Yo se que el no hizo mucho dinero. Y te escribit una carta. Per no nos trajiste nada. Navidad fue muy triste, pero mi mama me dijo que hay muchos niños pobres, y se te acabaron los regalos. Mi her, lano se llama Diego. Y tiene ocho años. Yo soy Wendy. Tengo 11 años. Tambien trae algo para mis papas.

Gracias, Santa Claus, Wendy." (Berkeley)

(Translation: "Dear Santa, We are poor. My father doesn't make much money. I know he didn't make much last year, so I wrote you a letter, but we didn't get anything. Our Christmas was very sad, but mom told me that there are lots of poor children and you ran out of presents. My brother's name is Diego. He is eight. My name is Wendy. I am 11. Would you please bring something for my parents too? Thank you, Santa, Wendy."

"Dear Santa,
All I really want for Christmas is a puppy. My mom does not want me to have one, but it's all I want. So please bring me a puppy. I am enclosing a dollar so you can buy one.

Thank you, Lauren" (Canyon Crest)

"Dear Santa,
If you think I was a good girl this year I'll appreciate that. I don't think I was good, but just in case, here's my list.

Love always, Veronica" (Antioch)

"Dear Mr. Santa Claus,
I don't want much this year. NO TOYS! Here's what I really want: I want it to snow. I want the snow to last from now to the last day of January.

Love, Alariza" (Oakland)

"Dear Santa,
This Xmas will really be just another lonely day because I'm a little boy being raised by my mother because I lost my father two years ago. If I could have him back again I wouldn't want anything else, but my second wish is to have a Sega

Genesis. But my mom can't afford to buy me one. Please can you make my second wish come true and maybe God will help me with my first wish.

Sincerely, a sad little boy." (San Leandro)

"Dear Santa,
I am sending you my Christmas list. I hope I get these presents. I am also enclosing my report card.

Thank you, James" (Newark)
(Editor's note: James got A's in Grammar, Arithmetic, and Listening Attentively.)

"Dear Santa,
Hi! How are you? I have been asking my mom to buy me a Super Nintendo, but she says she has no money because my dad doesn't live with or visit us no more. That's why I tried very hard to be a good girl this year, so you will grant my wish this Christmas. I even learned to wash the dishes, to help my mom at home. Oh, I forgot to tell you I am 8 years old. Please write back.

Love, Jamie" (San Francisco)

"Dear Santa,
We moved our furniture, so you'll find your snack next to our new armchair, along with directions for making a warm beverage. Enjoy! P.S. I'm sending this early so you can find a good sale.

Thanks again, Christian" ((Concord)

"Dear Santa,
These are the things I would like to receive from you: Eye shadow (L), Power Wheel (O), Kite (N), Walkman (O), CD Player (O) Television (O). Key to codes: L - Lots, N - Not so much, O - one of that thing.

Thank you, Sarah" (Alamo)

"Dear Santa,
Please go to the children's houses who don't have anything. And please give them one my cards.

Love, Alexandra, 4 years old" (Napa)

(Editor's note: Alexandra enclosed a dozen hand-crayoned cards she made herself.)

"Dear Santa,
Are the elves as big as the Seven Dwarves? How can you see so far away? (My mommy told me you're always watching.) Can you see the North Pole when you are far away from there? Like when you're in

Oakland or Lake Tahoe? What kind of cookies do you like?

Love, Marcel" (Oakland)

"Dear Santa,
I don't care what you bring me as long as it's more than you bring my sister. Love, Daryl" (Berkeley)

"Dear Santa,
I'm not sure if you're real or not because a lot of my friends say your parents are Santa, and I'm beginning to believe it. I don't want to, but if no proof is revealed then I'm going to have to stick with your parents are Santa.

Love, Laura" (Pleasanton)

"Dear Santa,
Ignore my previous letter. I think I do believe in you because I forgot that you wrote me a letter when I was seven. I've got to go now.

Bye bye, Laura" (Pleasanton)

"Dear Santa Claus,
I have been trying very hard to be good this year. I think I may have succeeded. This year I have a short but expensive list. I would like a camcorder with blank tapes. If this is asking too much, just get me a collector Barbie Doll.

Merry Christmas, Nicole.

P.S. Please my sloppy penmanship. I am writing in bed." (Antioch)

"Dear Santa,
All I want for Christmas is for my mom to get off drugs. Please help me, Santa.

Love, Jamir" (Oakland)

"Dear Santa,
I have been a pretty good boy this year. Sometimes I do what I'm supposed to, and sometimes I don't. But I try hard and I do well sometime.

Love, Sean" (Berkeley)

"Dear Santa,
I first want to put in something about how hard you work. Delivering presents to every kid on earth probably isn't an easy job. In order to thank you, I chose you for my theme in my speech contest, 'My favorite character.' I won third place schoolwide — the alternate for the county contest. Unfortunately, no one got sick. Love, Michelle" (Danville)

"Dear Santa,
On Christmas Eve please don't

make any noise, or I'll wake up and see you. By the way, how do I get down the chimney with your belly? I will leave you some cookies.

From your friend, Marie" (Oakland)

"Dear Santa,
Yesterday I saw the movie "Miracle on 34th Street." At first I did not believe in you, but now

"Dear Santa,
I have been a very good boy this year. I cracked my head open but didn't cry when they stitched it. Love, Casey" (Oakland)

"Dear Santa,
Here is something from my home that I want to share with you. I want to move back to L.A. I want to go back to my old school. I miss my friends. I am so lonely. I hope you help me.

Love, Michelle" (Oakland)

"Dear Santa Claus,
If you would like to know about Christmas in Vietnam, let me tell you what Christmas Eve was like in my home town, Hue.

"I'm a Vietnamese student, studying at Roosevelt School in Oakland. My father was a former South Vietnam soldier. He said all his life for his country and family. He brought us here to build a good life, a good learning.

"My family is so poor. We only have one way to choose. That way is learning to seek promotion on oneself.

"Let us return to the 8th of December in Vietnam was a holiday. It was winter. It was a little boys romped in their jacks and ruddy cheeks. I never forgot Santa Claus in Vietnam. He was poor, like me. His presents were a smile, some stories, a cup of small piece of cake. But I know I've remembered him from that time he came to the U.S.

"Now I am 11 years old. The time goes fast. A Christmas is not in my life. My U.S. friends tell me that the Santa Claus in the U.S. is a big, clement, kind-hearted man. He loves his children very much. I have never seen such a Santa Claus. I wish this Christmas that I have a big happiness from your presents. I promise you, I will study. I will be a good student in school, a good boy in my family. In seven years more I will be a citizen of this country.

"Sincerely, Phuong" (Oakland)

Lend Santa a hand

Want to play Santa Claus to one of these children? These letters — and thousands more just like them — are waiting at the main Oakland Post Office. Just call Ramirez at 874-8208 (or fax her at 832-4024), and she'll send you as many as you want to answer.

"You don't necessarily have to send the child a present," she says. "They appreciate it so much just knowing that someone out there cares."

On the other hand, if you want your own child to receive a letter from Santa Claus, that can be arranged too. Just write a letter to your child, put it in an envelope addressed to your child, and stick a stamp on it.

Then put the envelope inside another one addressed to: North Pole Cancellation, U.S. Postal Service, P.O. Box 9998, North Pole AK 99705-9998. (Yes, Virginia, even Santa has a zip code.)

A special unit at the Fairbanks Post Office will stamp your child's letter with a cancellation reading "North Pole" and mail it back.

Merry Christmas!



Women artists' show and sale fundraiser for two nonprofits

The Fifth Annual Women Artists' 1994 Holiday Art Show & Sale continues the weekends of Dec. 9-10 and Dec. 16-18 (Fridays through Sundays) in Emeryville, coinciding with the annual Emeryville Holiday Stroll.

The show theme is "Love Begins at Home" and features works by California women artists. Textiles, glass, wood works, paintings, mixed media, jewelry, and many outstanding gift items are being offered for sale. A large selection of unique Christmas ornaments by local participants will be on sale.

The show will be raising funds for two East Bay nonprofit organi-

zations: Berkeley Cares and The Women's Refuge, Inc. Berkeley Cares is a nationwide organization that focuses on a voucher program for the homeless. The Women's Refuge provides temporary emergency shelter for women and their children until they can regain control of their lives.

Daily door prizes and a specially designed T-shirt of the "Love Begins at Home" theme will be given away to help generate funds for these organizations throughout each weekend.

Show location is 1500 Park Ave. (cross street Hubbard) in Emeryville. Hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Project Share meeting Dec. 14

Project Share's hosts a monthly informational gathering for Oakland and Berkeley residents interested in finding shared housing or joining their home.

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday, Dec. 14, 2:30 p.m. at 3102 Telegraph Ave., Berkeley. For more information call 845-9030.



PUBLISHER'S NOTICE

All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Fair Housing Act which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status or national origin, or an intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination." Familial status includes children under the age of 18 living with parents, or legal custodians, pregnant women and people securing custody of children under 18.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis.

Realtors hear about latest loan options

Experts say if you want to buy there's a way

By Anita Thede

On Nov. 18, the third in a series of lenders seminars was held at the Berkeley Association of Realtors offices and sponsored by Old Republic Title Company.

Realtors, old and new, came to find out about the new and ever-changing types of loans available to home buyers. These seminars are a part of the continuing education that is provided by Realtors for Realtors.

Keeping informed of the changes in all aspects of the business is what makes a Realtor able to serve her or his client best. Many classes are offered each year for Realtors, including legal updates, marketing techniques, and other subjects.

The Lenders Forum gives member lenders a chance to bring Realtors up to date on the wide assortment of new loan products available in the marketplace, offering some tips on how and when best to use them.

The seminar included topics such as tips for first-time home buyers as well as the move-up buyer.



Presenters at the Berkeley Association of Realtors' Lenders Forum were Sam Fishman, left, Ellice Kaminsky, Lisa Wagner, Kathy Mitchell, Van Torma and Dorothy Benjamin.

Many homeowners — due to the recession or prior refinancing — find that they are not getting as much equity out of the sale of their home, making the next move more difficult.

There are special loan programs

that can help ease this situation. The combination of a smaller down payment and an adjustable rate mortgage can help purchasers buy a larger home than they might have otherwise.

The Nov. 18 seminar featured five representatives from banks and mortgage companies. Each gave an overview of their area of

specialization, including the City of Oakland and Emeryville down payment assistance programs designed to assist first-time buyers in the purchase of their own home.

Dorothy Benjamin of San Francisco Federal Savings explained how these programs work and what the borrower qualifications

See LOANS, next page

RAF Mortgage

Presents

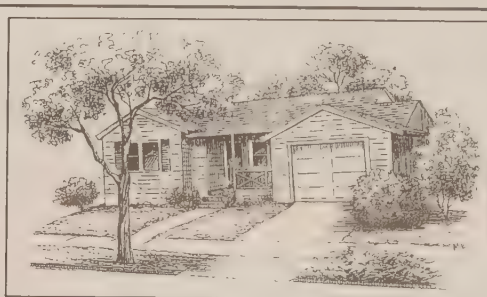
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Diane, a native of upstate New York, has been a resident of the East Bay since 1975, and an Albany resident since 1986. She has earned a reputation as an acutely insightful listener in her 18 years of local real estate sales. Diane has an unusual ability to perceive and meet her clients goals through exceptional counseling and negotiating skills.

For expertise, attention to detail, and energetic follow-through, call Diane at 527-3387 X 209 or her home office, 526-5273.

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| 1134 Masonic (2-4)..... | Albany..... | 4bd/2ba..... | \$275,000 |
| 1205 Dartmouth (2-4)..... | Albany..... | 3bd 1ba..... | \$219,000 |
| 1509 La Loma (2-4)..... | Berkeley..... | 5bd 5+ba..... | \$850,000 |
| 938 Grizzly Peak (2-4)..... | Berkeley..... | 3bd/2ba..... | \$375,000 |
| 864 Ensenada (2-4)..... | Berkeley..... | 3+bd/2+ba..... | \$275,000 |
| 739 Norvell (2-4)..... | El Cerrito..... | 2bd/1ba..... | \$222,000 |
| 2645 Arlington Blvd. (2-4)..... | El Cerrito..... | 2bd/1ba..... | \$198,000 |
| 4053 Harlan (2-4)..... | Emeryville..... | Lofts..... | \$149,500+ |
| 590 62nd Street (2-4)..... | Oakland..... | 2bd 1ba..... | \$139,000 |

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| ALBANY | Charming cottage, spacious garage wkshp/studio. | \$179,000 |
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| | A rare offering - traditional. 3+bd/2.5ba. | \$399,000 |
| | Elegant 2 story craftsman. 2+bd/1.5ba. | \$259,000 |
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| | New condos - sunny view unit w/1bd/1ba. | \$149,000 |
| | Income property. 4 unit building. | \$140,000 |
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| | Duplex w/great potential. Great for 1st time buyers. ... | \$ 94,500 |
| | Offices. 3 loc. with spaces from 650-1650 sq. ft. | \$ 850 |
| EL CERRITO | Mac style 2+bd, 3 levels, great backyard, very clean. | \$233,000 |
| | New price. Level in 2bd/1.5ba, 2 car gar, 2 frpls. | \$229,000 |
| | Cozy bungalow. 3bd/1ba c/cottage, large yard. | \$169,000 |

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3 bridge view, master suite with deck.\$285,000

MONTCLAIR

Sunny private mint cond. 2++bd, separate studio.\$285,000

MORAGA

Sunny 4bd/2ba, well maint., remod. kitch. Lg. yard. ...\$335,000

OAKLAND

4 units w/great pot. for owner occ. Live/work.\$239,000
Large 2+bd w/poss. in-law. Fabulous starter.\$179,000

POINT RICHMOND

1+bd/1ba condo with stunning panoramic views.\$155,000

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Craftsman 4bd/2ba home with large workshop\$169,000
\$4,000 moves you in. 2bd/1ba, large yard, deck.\$123,650
Charming craftsman style 2bd starter home.\$115,000
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Great location. 2bd up, plus add'l. space.\$185,000
Sunny, versatile 3+bd/1.5ba.\$182,000
Sparkling! Great price! 3+bd 1.5ba\$179,900

RICHMOND VIEW

New 3bd/2.5ba custom home. Master suite, view.\$385,000
New custom built home. 3bd/3ba.\$349,000
Lowest price ever. Canyon side 2+bd townhome.\$188,950
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R. View. Magnificent 5.79 acre parcel.\$250,000
Oakland. Level lot. Exc. area! Seller may carry.\$129,000
Great busy hair salon. Motivated seller.\$125,000
Great lot for development. 9-12 units possible.\$100,000
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Loans

Continued from previous page
are for participation.

Adjustable rates

Ellice Kaminsky of Mount Diablo Mortgage gave an explanation of why and when a loan with negative amortization can be positive for a purchaser. During the last couple of years variable rate mortgages have made it possible for more people to afford a home.

Variable rate mortgages, sometimes referred to as adjustable rate mortgages, are a great way for borrowers who are beginning in their profession to afford a larger mortgage. Payments start out lower and can gradually increase, usually as a person's income

One unique program requires the borrower to have only a \$500 down payment.

grows or college loans are paid off.

Others like adjustable mortgages because they do not plan to be in their home for more than five years or they plan to refinance at a later date. Adjustable rate mortgages have a lifetime cap, which means that they cannot increase beyond a specified percentage above the origination rate.

Another feature of adjustable rate mortgages is that some can have a cap limiting the actual increase to the payment. This way a borrower can be comforted in knowing that the actual payment will not go beyond a certain amount, making it easier to budget. Others have a periodic cap on the interest rate, usually 1 percent every six months, which is tied to an index.

Green Light

The new Green Light program allows very well-qualified borrowers to get loan approval in three hours. The disadvantage of this program is that it does not allow for exceptions to be made for borrowers whose income or job history is not conventional or easily documented. No qualifier and easy qualifier loans were outlined and their usefulness was discussed.

If a borrower has the ability to pay a monthly mortgage, or will have roommates to help with the payment, this type of loan can be useful as the lender does not require the same type of documentation. In certain instances the

paperwork can be as little as a credit report and a property appraisal. The down payment required is usually 20 to 25 percent of the appraised value of the home.

Low down payments

Sam Fishman, of Fishman Financial on Solano Avenue in Albany, told the agents about a unique program where the buyer could actually purchase a property with no down payment. The situation is limited, but possible nonetheless.

Kathy Mitchell and Lisa Wagner of KLA Mortgage explained the mortgage credit certificate program which is available to first-time home buyers in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. For purposes of this program, a first-time home buyer is defined as one who has not owned a principal residence in the last three years. This Federal program is actually a tax credit for the life of the loan.

Although some restrictions do apply, if a purchaser is qualified for this program it can significantly reduce the cost of a monthly mortgage payment, making it easier to qualify for a mortgage. Kathy and Lisa reminded us that if the purchaser has the desire to be a homeowner, they can usually find a way to do it.

Citibank has come out with some very innovative programs geared to those who have not had a chance to save enough for a down payment. One unique program requires the borrower to have only a \$500 down payment. There is an income limit for this program which makes it very well-suited to those prospective purchasers who are just starting out or who have a limited or fixed income.

While credit rating is an important factor in the type of loan a person can obtain, a person with a poor credit history needn't despair. There are loans available for them as well. A Realtor or a loan broker can also aid a person in clearing up most credit problems.

Armed with this new information — and a clearer view of old information — Realtors are able to help prospective purchasers make decisions about their home purchase, giving them valuable information on loan programs which can best meet their individual needs.

If you are truly motivated, there is very likely a home and a loan available for you!

Anita Thede is the broker/owner of Northbrae Properties in Berkeley. She is also chair of the Housing Needs Committee of the Berkeley Association of Realtors. She can be reached at 526-4336.

You can't always get what you want

But if you try sometimes you can get pretty close

Number 79 in a series of true experiences in real estate.

Buyers often look for the right house for a long time. For weeks, months, sometimes for years, they go inside houses that are for sale and look at them. In the beginning they get a feel for differences — styles, sizes, layouts, where the houses are located and how much they cost.

They see parts of houses they like and parts they don't. In this way they come to know what they wish for. "This kitchen is wonderful, but not this floor plan. The deep yard is what I want, but I would like to be closer to work."

Every buyer refines the items on his wish list and looks for a house that offers them all. This is only natural. We would all prefer our heart's desire. Maybe the right one hasn't appeared yet, but surely it exists.

So buyers look longer, and some of them discover that there are no ideal houses. Close, maybe, but not perfect. Buyers who can imagine living in the less than ideal are able to find a house that works well for them, and to buy it.

The others can't and they don't. They cling to the idea that if they search long enough, it is possible to get everything.

More and more houses are rejected (they begin to run together in their minds), more and more time is spent, and in the process, something happens. These people stop looking for a house. Instead, they look for — they wait for — an experience.

They wait to be felled, knocked over, to be unmistakably lost in wonder by some house somewhere, one they haven't yet seen. By now it is easy and quick to dismiss what they see. No bolt of lightning? Wrong house.

Not that miracles do not occasionally occur. We've seen them happen, been there when a buyer walked into a house and was struck.

Once we even sold a house to a woman who had no idea she was going to buy. Just for the fun of it, she went to one open house. The house grabbed her and made her buy it.

The hardest client of all is the one who is waiting to be seduced. We never know when or if seduction will occur, and we don't know how to find it.

We want to say to these people, "Possibilities are there if only you can see what you are looking at. If you are not expecting to be swept off your feet, you can recognize and get something good, some-

thing you'll be glad to have."

Ranch-style houses have never been my dream — wrong style, wrong era, wrong materials — and yet that's what I bought. My house has mismatched door handles, dated formica, and (typical for the era) skimpy door and window casings. Why did I buy it? Good reason number one: I could afford it.

There are other reasons, good things about my house that I discovered when I looked. It is close to my children's school. They can walk there and I never have to find a parking place for back-to-school night.

Great bonus: Doors open to my garden from the kitchen, the living room and the bedroom hall. And in the neighbor's yard is a glorious ginkgo tree that turns from green to rich gold every fall.

The aluminum windows do work. They slid back and forth and keep the rain out, and they won't rot. These virtues will not keep me from replacing them with

wooden windows when I can afford to, but for now, they do fine.

I wouldn't be in my house, wouldn't have these things, if I'd been waiting for a golden light to descend upon me as I walked in the door the first time. In order to choose my house, I had to see the possibilities.

It's true that I said at first, "That kitchen is awful," and "I can't believe someone actually painted the outside chocolate brown." More than once, I hoped out loud, "Someday we'll get rid of the carpeting and put in wood floors."

But I also said, "My kids will have their own rooms. The garage is large enough for everything we've kept. And the lot is wide and deep and sunny, a good place for a flower garden."

In all of the years that I have been looking at houses, I have not seen many that I would have bought. I couldn't afford most of those anyway, but if it had been possible for me to buy, if I'd been



TARPOFT & TALBERT

thinking seriously about any one of them, I'd have the pros and the cons them was perfect.

I think when a house pretty well and then is one's own, it becomes all the more likeable. It's like friends you grow to know them, actually become thankful to your eyes. I know happened for me. I hope happened for you, too.

Pat Talbert and Anne are licensed agents and estate consultants. To ask a question or to add your name to our mailing list, call Tarpoft & Talbert, Ltd., at 653-2050.

Montclair



Each office is independently owned and operated

6211 LaSalle Avenue
Oakland, CA 94611

339-8400

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00-4:30

| | | |
|---|----------------------------|------------------|
| 5981 Girvin Drive..... | 4+BR, 3BA..... | \$850,000 |
| Montclair's new mercurial artistic mansion! 4+3/4! | | |
| 865 Walavista..... | 4BR, 3BA..... | \$420,000 |
| Crocker Highlands traditional. Nice level yard. Rec room. Kitchen. | | |
| 5750 Harbord Drive..... | 2+BR, 2 1/2 BA..... | \$390,000 |
| Piedmont side of Montclair. Mediterranean charmer large garden, sophisticated. | | |
| 3344 Butters Drive..... | 3BR, 2 1/2 BA..... | \$340,000 |
| Montclair South-Sylvan Creekside setting, light & airy. Fireplace, hardwood. | | |
| 4027 Midvale..... | 3BR, 1 1/2 BA..... | \$230,000 |
| Upper Laurel. Smashing remodeled home with rec room. Lrg private yard. | | |
| 3858 Forest Hill Ave..... | 3BR, 2BA..... | \$197,000 |
| Off Tiffin-Berkeley brown shingle style, hardwood, very private and quiet. | | |
| 3325 Florida St..... | 3BR, 1BA..... | \$160,000 |
| Laurel dist. Just listed! English, hardwood, fireplace, formal dining, 3 car garages! | | |

BY APPOINTMENT

| | | | |
|--|------------------|---|------------------|
| CLAREMONT PINES ELEGANCE..... | \$895,000 | DESIGNER REMODELED HOME..... | \$720,000 |
| New construction, huge lot on cul-de-sac. 4BD/3BA, lrg farm m, 3 fireplaces, 3 car garage. HELEN NICHOLAS | | Montclair-Piedmont border on huge orchard-like lot. Fabulous kitchen. All hardwood & tile. HELEN NICHOLAS | |
| MINI ESTATE..... | \$639,000 | MONTCLAIR..... | \$280,000 |
| Ridgmont custom French provincial, 3600 sq ft. 5 acre, iron gate, 5BD/3BA. View of hills. MARTHA SHIN | | Gardener's delight. 2 bedroom, 1 bath. HELEN BUTY | |
| CUSTOM RIDGEMONT CONTEMP..... | \$599,000 | THE MOST CHARMING AWARD..... | \$260,000 |
| Wonderful spaces for family & entertaining. Large rooms, low maintenance yard. 5 yrs old. MARTHA SHIN | | Linc Hts! Views, style & integrity. Vaulted ceiling 2 master A-1 studio/RR. 2BD/2BA+ assum. RACHEL BALLER | |
| SKYLINE ESTATE..... | \$598,000 | SERENE SETTING IN TREES..... | \$260,000 |
| Secluded, view, pool, room for tennis court, zoned for horses, 5BD/3+BA, plus, plus! HELEN BUTY | | Montclair Hills huge lot with vacant adj lot. 2-BD with hardwood floors & fireplace. JAN NEFF | |
| DISTINCTIVE SPANISH/OAKMORE..... | \$549,000 | LAUREL LANE..... | \$230,000 |
| Original quality details. Ideal for entertaining & family, cul-de-sac, 5BD/3.5BA, sauna, au-pair qtrs. MARTHA SHIN | | Quiet but friendly. 3BD/1.5BA plus family room terrace bay view. JAN NEFF | |
| ONE OF A KIND DUPLEX..... | \$450,000 | TEMESCAL-MUST BE SOLD!..... | \$180,000 |
| Glenview. Fab. "owners" unit cathedral ceiling in living rm. 2BD, 2BA rumpus + sep. unit w/2BD/1.5BA & views. HELEN BUTY | | Queen Anne 2-story, 3BD home with lovely level garden. Separate artist's studio. LYN MURRAY | |
| CHARMING CAPE-COD..... | \$449,000 | NEW LISTING MAXWELL PARK..... | \$160,000 |
| Formal living/dining, family rm w/2nd fireplace, Sunny & spacious rms, fenced level back yard w/patio. MARTHA SHIN | | Large 4BD/2BA formal dining. Gleaming hardwood view of yard + teenage quarters, garage. HAL CASTLE | |
| CROCKER HIGHLANDS..... | \$399,000 | SPARKLING BUNGALOW..... | \$160,000 |
| Traditional 4BD family home near excellent elementary school! Also, close to SF bus. LYN MURRAY | | Laurel area. 2BD doll house in move-in condition. Remodeled kitchen. Hardwood floors, fireplace. VICKIE CHAN CASE | |
| CHARM AND PRIVACY ABOUND!..... | \$379,000 | NEW ASIANTOWN-BRING OFFER..... | \$140,000 |
| Secret hideaway tucked away in Montclair. Close to village and transit. 2+BD/2BA-level yard. JUDY FARRELL | | Grand old huge bungalow in superb but original condition! quality! Seller help on loan. D.C. HODGES | |
| FOR THE HOLIDAYS..... | \$349,000 | NEW LISTING UPPER DIMOND..... | \$140,000 |
| Charming, trad in upper Oakmore, view. Flexible floor plan, h/dw flrs, formal, terrace clear. MARTHA SHIN | | Above MacArthur, remodeled to code. New h/dw flrs, 2 bedroom, huge yard, fruit trees/dsl garage. HAL CASTLE | |
| 3BD/2.5BA WMARBLE MASTER..... | \$339,000 | SOLID BUT SIMPLE STARTER..... | \$130,000 |
| Montclair 5 year new contemp. FR, FDR, 2 car garage. Hdwd, Berber carpets and 2 flrs. JEFF HILGERT | | China Hill stability with Park Blvd. bus & shopping. 2-BD w/termite clearance. Light, airy! D.C. HODGES | |

CONDOS

| | | | |
|--|------------------|--|------------------|
| CONVENIENCE WITH ELEGANCE!..... | \$219,500 | PIEDMONT AVE. AREA..... | \$170,000 |
| Crocker Highlands area's unique and only condominium homes. Huge 2BD/2BA, den, pastoral setting. D.C. HODGES | | Stunning remodeled 2BD in sought after park Square! Great view of hills. CAROL COHEN | |
| DAZZLING LAKE VIEWS..... | \$182,500 | TOP FLOOR LUXURY UNIT..... | \$120,000 |
| Lakeside Drive's most prestigious, secure address! Huge 2BD/2BA, all rooms face lake! 51 ft balcony. D.C. HODGES | | Opposite Claremont Country Club-just reduced! Very bright fireplace, inside laundry. STEVEN BIASATTI | |
| REDUCED! LUXURY PENTHOUSE..... | \$175,000 | HUGE REDUCTION! TOP VALUE..... | \$110,000 |
| Piedmont Ave. 2 level living. 2 master suites. Gourmet kitchen w/eating area and pantry. CAROL COHEN | | Luxurious Adams Point condo. Large 2 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace. Peek of the bay view. CAROL COHEN | |

LOTS

| | | | |
|---|------------------|---|-----------------|
| LOCATION-LOCATION-LOCATION..... | \$139,000 | MONTCLAIR LOT..... | \$60,000 |
| Claremont Knolls. Bay/Mt. Tam views. Great neighborhood. Entrance from two sides. CARIN CAROE | | Close to Village, some bay views. Easy down slope. Great building pad. Ready seller. HARRIET SCHOEN | |

INCOME

| | | | |
|--|------------------|---|------------------|
| FAMILY-COMPOUND OPPORTUNITY..... | \$595,000 | LAST CALL FROM I.R.S..... | \$480,000 |
| Skyline Hills unique complex. 5-plex with huge, elegant master. Adjacent 4-plex available. D.C. HODGES | | Ivy Hill French-Manor 5-plex gives tax shelter to produce! 2BD/1BA's, superb condition. D.C. HODGES | |
| RARE ROCKRIDGE TRIPLEX!..... | \$280,000 | | |
| Classic turn-of-the-century units. Huge polished owner's flat plus 2 "easy to rent" units. STEVEN BIASATTI | | | |

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Lock N' ShopSM lets your buyers shop with confidence, knowing that their rate is guaranteed. The rate can't go up, but it could even go down.

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Teresa Stingley
Branch Manager/Underwriter



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EXQUISITE ENGLISH TUDOR
IN THE UPPER CROCKER HIGHLANDS DISTRICT
ON A QUIET CUL-DE-SAC CLOSE TO THE PIEDMONT BORDER!

It's Beautiful! It's Charming! It's a True Find!
This one-of-a-kind English-style home is perfectly designed for family living and for the garden lover. The brick patio off the den/bonus room overlooks a large and delightful yard. In addition to the features mentioned below, this home has been bolted and shearwalled for earthquake safety. And there is a full automated sprinkler system and a tree house in the garden area!

- Three plus bedrooms and 1.5 baths.
- Spacious living room with fireplace.
- Great yard with patio & a tree house.
- Wonderful eat-in kitchen.
- Family room on the main level.
- Bonus room ideal for office or den.
- Close to Piedmont border.
- Large formal dining room.



15 VAN SICKLEN PLACE
OAKLAND

Offered at: \$429,000



INVESTMENT HOUSE REALTY
Jeanne Yeh, Realtor
office: 527-8777 home: 848-2303

Events

Holiday attractions at Oakland's **Camron-Stanford House**, 1418 Lakeside Dr., include a 12-foot tree decorated with handmade and heirloom ornaments and a Victorian gift shop. Open Wednesdays 11 a.m. - 4 p.m. and Sundays, 1-5 p.m., through Dec. 31. \$2. Call 836-1976.

A Home Buyers' Open House Forum, is Saturday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. - noon, at Great Western Bank, 2150 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley. A panel of experts will answer the most commonly asked questions on real estate home loans, title and escrow. Free pre-qualification, credit analysis and home affordability review will be available. Reservations required. Call 620-7500.

A First-time Homebuyer Workshop is Saturday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. - noon, at 977 San Pablo Ave., Albany. Learn about financing options including low down payments; income required to qualify for a loan; loan program selections; closing costs; and community assistance programs. Discuss potential neighborhoods and how to choose/use an agent. Free. Reservations, call Connie Jackson, Re/Max, 286-7680, or Karen Ward, The Mortgage Line, 718-2134.

Tour six decorated homes during **Alameda's Family Service League's Holiday Home Tour**, Saturday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., a benefit for the league. Purchase tickets at \$17.50, including dessert tea, at Encinal Yacht Club, Pacific Marina, Alameda. Call 435-2402 for more information.

A free seminar designed to help

you qualify for the **Community Home Buyer's Program**, is Saturday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. - noon, at Glendale Federal Bank, 2420 Santa Clara Ave., Alameda. Co-sponsored by Harbor Bay Realty and North American Title Company, the seminar will focus on how to buy a home using low down payment programs. Limited seating. Reservations required. Call 521-3855 or 352-7241.

A hands-on **Basic Compost Workshop** is Saturday, Dec. 10, 10 a.m. - noon, at Lakeside Park, adjacent to the Garden Center Building on Bellevue Avenue near Oakland's Lake Merritt. Sponsored by the Alameda County Waste Management Authority Home Composting Program, the class teaches how to compost yard and kitchen waste. Transform trash into free, nutritious fertilizer. Free. Call the Hotline at 635-6275 for more information.

The McCreary Greer House at 2318 Durant Ave. in Berkeley, an ornate Colonial Revival home built in 1901, will be the focus of an **Open House**, Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 10 & 11, 1-5 p.m., sponsored by the Berkeley Architectural Heritage Association. The event will include exhibits of dolls and tops, a silent auction, a display of Christmas decorations and a wreath sale. \$5. Call 841-2242.

The Building Education Center, 812 Page St., Berkeley, presents **Basic Electrical Skills Hands-on Workshop**, Sat. & Sun., Dec. 10 & 11, 9:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. both days. \$180. Reservations required. Call 525-7610.

A Holiday Home Tour through

five homes in Pacific and Presidio Heights is Saturday & Sunday, Dec. 10 & 11, noon - 4 p.m. Sponsored by The Little Jim Club, the event is a benefit for the Pediatric Programs at California Pacific Medical Center. Admission is \$20. For ticket purchase or tickets by mail, call (415) 567-7013.

The **Berkeley Artisans Holiday Open Studios** continue Saturdays and Sundays, Dec. 10 & 11 and 17 & 18, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m. In all, 24 studios will be open featuring clothing, jewelry, ceramics, stained glasswork, and lots of holiday gifts ideas. Call 845-2612 to find out where to get a tour map.

The Building Education Center, 812 Page St., Berkeley, presents **How to Buy Buildable Land**, Sunday, Dec. 11, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m. \$35. Reservations required. Call 525-7610.

How to Value, Prepare, and Sell Your Business, a workshop sponsored by the Hampton Group, is Wednesday, Dec. 14, 5:30 - 7 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, 500 Hegenberger Rd., Oakland. Topics include: How to get your business ready for sale; what business buyers are looking for; how to successfully negotiate the highest price and terms for your business; and putting a value on your business. Free. To register, call 820-6084.

For inclusion in Events, send information to Maggie Sharpe, Real Estate, Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland, 94619. Phone: 339-4047; FAX: 339-4066. Information must be received one week prior to publication.

Artwork sale benefits women's center

Here's a chance to shop for some exceptional holiday gift items while benefitting the Berkeley-based Women's Daytime Drop-In Center (WDDC).

The WDDC provides critically needed assistance for homeless women and children, helping to break the cycle of homelessness through an effective array of services.

In fact, one of the artists represented at this show is a former client of the Center.

This year's event will begin with a gala opening on Friday, Dec. 9, 5:30 - 8:30 p.m., at Northbrae Properties, 1600 Hopkins St., at the corner of McGee Avenue.

Hot hors d'oeuvres, wine and other refreshments will be served.

There will be a silent auction table, displaying a representative major piece from each artist.

All proceeds from the silent auction will benefit the WDDC directly.

The show continues Saturday and Sunday, Dec. 10 & 11, 10 a.m. - 4:40 p.m.

Northbrae Properties hosts two shows a year for the WDDC.

This North Berkeley real estate company converts its offices to gallery space once at Mother's Day and again just before Christmas.

The shows have become a significant source of additional funds for the WDDC.

Shoppers will find a wide array of work at the upcoming show. Indoor fountains, functional wood art pieces, jewelry,



Robert Edney's pottery, and lots of other beautiful hand-crafts, will be on sale this Saturday at Northbrae Properties. When not making pottery, Edney works at Northbrae.

hand-made clothes and accessories, ceramics and a variety of other items will be offered.

Participating artists include Robert Edney, Betsy Davidson, Brenda Cox Giguere, Inrid Moore,

Orki Imports and others.

Each artist contributes a minimum of 30 percent directly to the WDDC.

For more information, call 526-4336.

COLDWELL BANKER ... Expect the best.™

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 4:30 PM

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 11 HAWKS HILL..... | HILLER HIGHLANDS..... | 3BD, 2.5BA..... | \$425,000..... | OLLIE HAMMEREL |
| 77 MANOR DR..... | PIEDMONT..... | 3+BD, 2BA..... | \$425,000..... | OLLIE HAMMEREL |
| 19 BINNACLE HILL..... | HILLER HIGHLANDS..... | 2BD, 2BA..... | \$349,500..... | OLLIE HAMMEREL |
| 1633 TRESTLE GLEN RD..... | TRESTLE GLEN..... | 4BD, 2BA..... | \$349,000..... | VICTOR FIERRO |
| 6669 THORNHILL DR..... | MONTCLAIR..... | 3BD, 2.5BA..... | \$317,500..... | DIAN HYMER |
| 1857 MAGELLAN DR..... | MONTCLAIR..... | 3BD, 2.5BA..... | \$289,000..... | ADRIENNE BROCHE |
| 744 CALMAR..... | CROCKER..... | 3BD..... | \$269,500..... | RUBY NG |
| 2320 8TH STREET..... | BERKELEY..... | 3BD, 2BA..... | \$169,000..... | VICTOR FIERRO |

BY APPOINTMENT • 339-1174

OAKLAND ★ MONTCLAIR ★ PIEDMONT ★ ALAMEDA

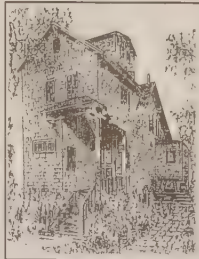
| | | | |
|---|------------------|---|-----------------|
| ONE OF A KIND! | \$689,000 | RELAXING RETREAT | \$339,000 |
| Privacy, level yard/garden, view, big deck. Near shops & schools. 4BD, 4BA, with master suite & his/hers offices or sitting rooms. | Judy Maher | Within city limits. Custom home on approx. 1/3 acre. Good for entertaining. A must see for people who love a woody outdoor but still enjoy natural light. Montclair schools. Close to hwy & shopping. 3BD, 3BA. | Ruby Ng |
| PIEDMONT | \$625,000 | HILLER HIGHLANDS | \$328,500 |
| One level home on large lot, formal entry, vaulted ceiling, two fireplaces, pool and pool house. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. | George Karsant | 3BD, 2.5BA, corner unit, 2 fireplaces, partial bay view, skylights & a loft. | Ollie Hammerel |
| PIEDMONT - CAPE COD | \$595,000 | PRIVATE RETREAT | \$245,000 |
| Large frml rms, sunny kitchen level out to yard. Separate studio + bath perfect for home office. | George Karsant | Spacious 2BD, 2BA ranch style in Crocker Highlands on a large private lot. Open kitchen/family rm. | Dian Hymer |
| DAZZLING VIEWS | \$499,000 | HEART OF MONTCLAIR | \$245,000 |
| From this dramatic contemporary. 4 bedrooms, den, 3 baths, high vaulted ceilings and fabulous SF bay and Golden Gate bridge views. | Norm Robinow | Walk to many conveniences. Well kept 3BD, 2BA. Level out to rear patio. 2 car garage. | George Karsant |
| PIEDMONT SIDE OF MONTCLAIR | \$449,900 | REDWOOD HEIGHTS | \$239,500 |
| Custom 4BD, 3.5BA, 2 family rooms, 2 fireplaces, level yard. Bay view on private cul-de-sac. | Judy Rankankan | Attractive 4BD, 2BA w/hdwd flrs, eat-in kitchen, frml dining, fam rm, frpl, large yard & patio. | Jack Brennerman |
| PIEDMONT | \$439,000 | SOUTH OF CAMPUS | \$229,000 |
| Wonderful ambience. Sunny and bright. 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Nice deck/patio/yard area. Bonus room too. One car garage. | Ruby Ng | Excellent location. Lots of space for the \$\$. 3+BD, 2BA, fenced yard & deck. | Donna DeBardi |
| PIEDMONT PINES | \$369,850 | JUST LISTED | \$195,000 |
| 4 year old contemporary. Spacious with lots of windows, light & bright. 4BD, 3.5BA, separate living suite & family room + 2 fireplaces. | Norm Robinow | Rockridge fixer. 2BD, 1BA bungalow. Walk to Rockridge BART, Market Hall & College Ave. shops. | Don Coelho |
| GLENVIEW | \$369,000 | SPANISH STYLE | \$139,000 |
| Fabulous brown shingle duplex. Large units, wooded view, extra space & storage. | Adrienne Broche | Formal dining room, breakfast nook and one year old roof. | Jini Kelley |
| LEONA PARK VILLA | \$349,000 | COZY LAUREL STARTER | \$125,000 |
| Fabulous 3BD, 2.5BA Spanish Med. style villa. Wooded canyon views, flagstone courtyard, elegant master suite. Distinctive architecture. | Sherry Benninger | Sunny & bright 2BD, 1BA bungalow. Nice backyard with patio. Has new lawn. Neat as a pin! | Nancy Welk |

LOTS

Build your dream home or build a home to sell. We have many available, wide range of prices and areas.

| | | | |
|--------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|------------------|
| CLAREMONT | 132 BEECHWOOD DR..... | \$199,500..... | JIM DUFFY |
| CLAREMONT | 11 DOROTHY PL..... | \$190,000..... | PAT WHITTINGSLOW |
| MONTCLAIR | RT. OF 10010 BROADWAY TERR..... | \$ 95,000..... | GEORGE KARSANT |
| MONTCLAIR | 6125 PINWOOD RD..... | \$ 79,000..... | NANCY WELK |
| PIED. PINES | GIRVIN & WESTOVER..... | \$ 50,000 ea..... | PAT WHITTINGSLOW |

BY APPOINTMENT



ELMWOOD BROWN SHINGLE.....\$279,000

Nestled in the trees, this upgraded craftsman beauty has 3BR, 1.5BA, a study, formal dining and hardwood floors. Includes new foundation, kitchen & baths. Walk to College Avenue shops and restaurants.

BY APPOINTMENT



RARE ALBANY 4 BEDROOM.....\$349,000

Sunny & bright brown shingle, completely updated with skylights, hardwood floors, beautiful kitchen, baths and master suite. Walk to schools, shops and transportation.

OPEN SUNDAY 2:00 - 4:30 PM

| | | | | |
|------------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|
| 1416 GRANT..... | BERKELEY..... | 3+BR/2BA..... | \$379,000..... | KAREN BRAND |
| 1223 PARKER..... | BERKELEY..... | 2BR/1BA..... | \$215,000..... | MELISSA LYCKBERG |
| 1518 SONOMA..... | ALBANY..... | 3BR/1.5BA..... | \$300,000..... | MELISSA LYCKBERG |
| 607 MADISON..... | ALBANY..... | 4BR/2BA..... | \$315,000..... | LYDIA MENSEN |
| 395 ADAMS..... | OAKLAND..... | 4BR/1.5BA..... | \$209,000..... | JERRY LONG |
| 2238 39TH..... | OAKLAND..... | 2BR/1BA..... | \$139,000..... | NANCY TAUSSIG |

BY APPOINTMENT • 486-1495

BERKELEY ★ KENSINGTON ★ ALBANY ★ EL CERRITO ★ RICHMOND

| | | | |
|--|-----------|---|-----------|
| HOLD COURT IN THE BERKELEY HILLS | \$690,000 | BERKELEY HILLS JEWEL | \$285,000 |
| This stunning, sun-filled contemporary is built around a central courtyard with lush gardens, bay views & in indoor pool. 4BR, 5BA with separate living quarters - perfect for many different living arrangements! All in a peaceful, green setting. | | JUST LISTED! High in the hills, this darling 2BR home is full of sunlight & will charm your socks off! Formal DR, hwdwd flrs, French doors from kit open to priv. quiet patio. | |
| NORTH BERKELEY SWEETHEART | \$329,000 | BERKELEY BROWN SHINGLE COTTAGE | \$225,000 |
| Walk to the gourmet ghetto from this 3BR, 2BA contemp w/large LR & DR + lg deck & fam rm! Great for entertaining. | | REDUCED! Charming 3BR w/detached studio, FDR, hwdwd flrs & many structural upgrades. Ready to move-in! | |
| NATURE LOVER'S RETREAT IN KENSINGTON | \$325,000 | BERKELEY VICTORIAN FARMHOUSE | \$209,000 |
| Huge decks with huge panoramic views of Tilden Park, super private and quiet. 3BR, 2BA with detached studio on .37 acre double lot! | | Darling farmhouse with French doors to sunny deck. 2BR, hwdwd floors, frpl, plus a detached studio/office area. | |
| BAY VIEWS FROM EVERY ROOM | \$309,000 | OAKLAND CRAFTSMAN COSMETIC FIXER | \$199,000 |
| MAJOR PRICE REDUCTION! Dramatic Berkeley hills contemp w/floor to ceiling glass in living room. 3BR, 2BA, new hwdwd & tile floors, updated kitchen & secluded patio. | | JUST LISTED! Two story craftsman with 4 bedrooms, 1.5 baths, formal dining plus large yard. This is a great opportunity to create your dream home! | |
| ALBANY CRAFTSMAN | \$300,000 | NORTH BERKELEY CONDO | \$199,000 |
| Warmth & charm abound in this 3BR, 1.5BA home in one of Albany's best neighborhoods with updated kitchen, lovely rewood details, formal dining. Plus full basement with workshop. | | Across from Walnut Square, half a block from Chez Panisse! Spacious 2BR, 2BA unit with big balcony and fireplace. Includes storage room, laundry and parking. | |
| | | SUNNY, UPGRADED RICHMOND ANNEX HOME | \$195,000 |
| | | Spacious, sunny & charming, this beautiful home has a large, updated, open kitch w/skylights, 2BR, 2BA & fam rm, deck & lovely backyard plus a wonderful workshop for the hobbyist! | |

OAKLAND/ BERKELEY LOTS

| | | | |
|---|-----------|---|----------|
| SUPER BERKELEY/CLAREMONT LOT | \$135,000 | BAY VIEWS FROM BERKELEY | \$99,000 |
| Nearly .25 acre with panoramic views. Expensive homes rebuilt all around this gentle downslope. | | REDUCED \$16,000! Downslope lot in the prestigious Claremont area with great Bay views and southern exposure. | |

6137 La Salle Ave., Oakland

339-1174

COLDWELL BANKER

1495 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley

486-1495



'Champion' Realtor strikes balance between career and family

Nahid Nassiri traces her path to top producer

By Maggie Sharpe

People often ask Nahid Nassiri the secret of her success. A partner and Senior Realtor at Better Homes Realty, Nahid placed among the top-ranking producers for 1994 with personal sales of \$12 million. In 1989, she was named one of the top 10 champions by the Women's Council of Realtors.

"I never push people," says Nahid, whose track record among the top producers stretches back a decade. "It's my job to give clients all the information they need, then let them make the decisions."

Nahid brings to her job some special qualifications. She holds a master's degree in architecture, an invaluable asset in today's increasingly complex real estate market where her ability to assess the design, structural integrity or renovation potential of any given property is an immediate help to her buyers and sellers.

She's also been in the business for 14 years, the last five with Better Homes Realty on Leimert Boulevard in Oakland.

"I've seen a lot of changes in the industry," says Nahid, who specializes in residential real estate in Piedmont, Oakland and Montclair. "Today, more than ever, it's important for buyers and sellers to work with an agent who is knowledgeable and has the ability to handle complex transactions correctly."

Raised in Iran

Born and raised in Iran, Nahid



'... it's important for buyers and sellers to work with an agent who can handle complex transactions correctly.'

—NAHID NASSIRI, BETTER HOMES REALTY

graduated from the University of Tehran. She later moved to London to continue her studies in architecture, garnering experience there and in other parts of Europe.

Her mother was an elementary school principal; her father, the owner of a tile company. "I was

raised in a family where education was very important," says Nahid.

It was also where she learned the strong code of ethics which many of her clients say is her most outstanding quality.

"Her ethics in conducting her

business are exemplary in our judgment," said Catherine and Oliver Tang, who have concluded a total of three home sales with Nahid. "Choosing her as our agent a decade ago is a decision that has resulted in our financial stability today."

Choose wisely

With real estate transactions becoming ever more complicated — from the lengthy purchase agreements to the quagmire of financial options and disclosure agreements — it's imperative to employ the services of an agent with an excellent track record. Merely picking an agent 'out of the hat' can cost a home buyer or seller thousands of dollars.

And it's not the company you choose that helps you buy or sell your home, stresses Nahid. It's the agent. As Harold Goldstein, who sold his Oakland home in 1990 with Nahid's help, points out: "Many agents are fine until a crisis arises, but Nahid gets even better when things get tough."

"I compare it to choosing any kind of professional help," says Nahid. "A person in need of brain surgery wouldn't put his or her trust in the hands of just anyone. Similarly, when making what for most people is the biggest financial investment of their lives, it's important that they find an agent who is knowledgeable and creative."

In talking to some of Nahid's clients, it's obvious there's much more to her success than what one described as her "clockwork precision" in handling transactions.

"She took over our case with our genuine interest at heart," says Fatima Shahrabani, a first-time homebuyer from Berkeley. "Although ours was a relatively small

deal, Nahid's professional attitude and performance throughout made it very easy on us."

Partners for life

Mark Attarha, Nahid's partner at Better Homes Realty, is also her husband. Although they never actually met, the couple knew of one another when both lived in Iran. Their paths crossed again in the early '80s after both had settled in California.

"In fact," recalls Nahid, "it was Mark who encouraged me to enter the real estate business. I wanted to spend more time with our young daughter, Hilla, and my career as an architect was demanding that I be gone from her for long hours."

Today, Hilla is 20 and a junior at the University of Santa Barbara. Mark and Nahid, who are longtime Piedmont residents, have another daughter, Mouna, 8, a third-grader at Havens Elementary School.

Family is a top priority for Nahid who is one of six brothers and sisters, one of whom lives in San Diego. The others still live in Tehran.

"I'm always seeking to balance my life between that of a professional Realtor and that of wife and mother to my two daughters," says Nahid. "Yet, I think it is my experience as wife and mother that allows me to better empathize with my clients and stay in tune with their wants and needs."

On the move

Nahid Nassiri's tranquil demeanor belies a strong determina-

tion to get the job done. Frances and Linsey Freeman bought their first home with Nahid's assistance in 1992, up this way: "Nahid can climb mountains with the same energy she has."

Catherine and Oliver Tang call her "strong will to overcome any obstacles arising out of a real estate transaction as well as a relentless pursuit of opportunity on behalf of her clients."

"I'm there to help you get what they want," says Nahid. "It's not just about making money and commissions."

Perhaps some of Nahid's energy stems from her daily mile walks. How does she find time with a hectic professional schedule and a third-grader well? "I get up at 5 a.m. every day and walk in the dark!"

Another passion shared by the whole family is skiing. This day season Nahid, Mark, Hilla and Mouna will travel to their ski resort in Squaw Valley where they will celebrate the season's goodwill with close friends and enjoy a relaxing vacation from the busy world of real estate.

"At this time of year, I rely on all the support I've had from many clients as well as other estate agents. I'd like to say a big thank-you to them all for everyone a happy and peaceful holiday."

If you'd like to consult Nahid Nassiri about buying or selling a home, she can be reached at 339-4000.

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284 MOUNTAIN AVENUE, PIEDMONT - 6BD/4+BA.....\$1,695,000
Approx. 1/2 acre, library, family room, rec room, gardens. Wyn Stephens

168 HIGHLANDS BLVD., KENSINGTON - 3-BD/2+BA.....\$389,000
Panoramic 3-bridge view, family room, huge bonus room. Joan Hause

797 ROSEMOUNT, CROCKER HIGHLANDS - 4BD/4BA.....\$360,000
Price reduced! English Tudor, large rumpus room. Georgia Cornell

4926 STONERIDGE COURT, RIDGEMONT - 3BD/2+BA.....\$339,000
Price reduced! Tranquil canyon/south bay view, level yard. Robyn Mohr

47 CHATSWORTH COURT, MONTCLAIR - 4BD/3BA.....\$329,000
Piedmont Pines! Cul-de-sac, 2 master suites, rumpus. Brooks Anderson

BY APPOINTMENT

ARCHITECT DESIGNED - PIEDMONT.....\$990,000
An exceptional home for active living & elegant entertaining. All one level, open floor plan, lovely private patios. Nancy Donnelly

NEW CONSTRUCTION - ROCKLEDGE.....\$695,000
Spanish Mediterranean with wonderful yard & gardens. Bay view, 4BD/2+BA, kit/family room, luxurious master suite. Teri Carlisle

BAY/CANYON VIEW - RIDGEMONT.....\$459,000
Beautiful views from most rooms, versatile floor plan, 4BD/3BA, family room plus huge bonus room, 3-car garage. Robyn Mohr

MONTCLAIR VIEW HOME.....\$450,000
Spectacular bay views, cul-de-sac, 2+BD/2BA including beautiful master suite, large wrap around deck, workshop. Francis Heath

CUSTOM HOME - MONTCLAIR.....\$425,000
Close-in location! 3+BD/2BA, vaulted ceiling in LR, fabulous kit/fam rm, rumpus on lower level, beautiful patio. Wendy Gardner

SERENE SETTING - MONTCLAIR.....\$389,000
Four year old custom home w/privacy & bay views. 3BD/2+BA, exquisite mst ste, gracious DR, prime location. Nancy Donnelly

REDWOOD HEIGHTS TREASURE.....\$382,500
Gorgeous English, perfectly decorated. 3BD/2+BA, LR & mst ste lead to lg tree lined deck, charming kit, frml DR. Dee Knowland

ALL LEVEL - UPPER ROCKLEDGE.....\$379,950
Impeccably maintained with charming decor. 4BD/2BA, family room, cul-de-sac, huge deck, landscaped. Charlene Claybaugh

PACIFIC UNION 339-6460 1900 MOUNTAIN BOULEVARD.

The GRUBB Co.
R E A L T O R S
PIEDMONT

ELEGANT COUNTRY ENGLISH: PRICE UPON REQUEST
Designed for entertaining on a grand scale. Dramatic staircase, formal living & dining, cozy library. Guest cottage. MARION SCHWARTZ

PIEDMONT ESTATE: PRICE UPON REQUEST
Exquisite Rococo detailing & gorgeous Bayviews throughout. Exceptional for intimate gatherings or elaborate entertaining. ANGELA WEIGRUBB

GRAND ENGLISH STYLE: \$1,150,000
Fabulous location near Dracena Park. Spacious living & formal dining. Gorgeous kitch leads to comfortable family rm w/trpc. MINDY SCOTT

PRIVACY, ABUNDANT SPACE & LIGHT: \$1,075,000
Nearly 3/4 acre. Magnificent views. Elegant living & dining w/gorgeous detail. Gracious staircases. Cozy library. ANIAN PETTIT TUNNEY

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS! \$895,000
The warmth, comfort & elegance of a true English Tudor. Architectural perfection. Gorgeous kitchen/family rm. D. GRUBB JR./A. TUNNEY

ELEGANT TRADITIONAL: \$849,000
NEW LISTING! Quiet central location. Partial Bay view. Beautifully updated. Bright & sunny. Private showings only. DEBRA DRYDEN

CENTRAL PIEDMONT TRADITIONAL: \$799,950
NEW PRICE! Spacious formal living & dining & gorgeous kitchen/family room—great for entertaining. DONALD GRUBB JR.

NEW EXCLUSIVE LISTING!

Grand traditional styling of a gorgeous Piedmont residence. Gracious living & dining—perfect for the Holidays. DONALD GRUBB JR.
OFFERED AT \$649,500

FABULOUS PIEDMONT RENOVATION:
Bright & sunny living areas. Stunning kitchen-family rm. Expansive master suite. Brick patio & gardens. Very, very private. ELIZABETH

CHARMING MEDITERRANEAN

New kitchen flows out to private deck & family rm. Spacious living & dining. Convenient location near schools & parks. MARION SCHWARTZ
NEW PRICE \$609,000!

MOVE RIGHT IN!
NEW PRICE! Mediterranean Charm. Great condition. Gracious dining. 4 br, 2.5 ba, rumpus. Spacious garden. ANGELA WEIGRUBB

COUNTRY ELEGANCE:
NEW PRICE! Beautifully decorated throughout. Magnificent views. Formal dining & kitchen open to garden. DEBRA DRYDEN

ST. JAMES WOODS:
Sunny home levels out to spacious, private garden. Bay view, living & formal dining. Lovely hardwood floors. DEBRA DRYDEN

CLASSIC CRAFTSMAN:
NEW PRICE! Charming, spacious & light. Large formal living & dining. Cozy family rm opens to garden. SHERRI WILLIAMS

WONDERFUL PIEDMONT VALUE:
Pristine Traditional on a quiet street. Walk to all schools. Upper SF commute. Spacious rooms. 3 br/2 ba. KATHERINE

GRACIOUS TRADITIONAL:
Formal living & elegant dining. Spacious central hall floor plan. Separate master suite. Great location. DONALD GRUBB JR.

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What You Don't Know Can Hurt You

Don Dunning, CRB

Buy Now

Home sales invariably bring in crowds. The merchandise may be the same as it was last week, but you expect to spend less on it — you know the sale will end. Today's real estate market is similar to the department store sale with two major problems: the crowds aren't there and you don't know how long it will last.

The average person prefers to be in the crowd. We have all heard the phrase, "buy low and sell high." It sounds great, but most people do it wrong. Why? Because doing so involves individual decisions which carry some risk. Following the herd may seem safer when, financially, it may actually be the opposite. You see, by the time "the crowd" acts upon a trend, it is usually too late to reap the benefits.

What proof? Ask those who have bought at the top of the market in the late 1980s and early 1990. How much are those homes worth now? In too many cases, substantially less than they were. Yet, from 1987 to 1989, there was a literal buying frenzy. Many instincts, safety in numbers, call it what you want, but the fact was that competition for homes pushed prices up as much as 20 percent a year. To have 10 or 20 competitive bids on one property was not unusual. The "winner's" offer tended to be

substantially higher than the asking price, artificially inflating property values. Many came to believe values would keep going up unabated. Nothing goes on forever. It all runs in cycles.

Look at Bay Area home prices in the past 20 years. There were ups and downs, but by late 1989, prices had spiraled to record levels. As noted above, a frenzied market causes a major imbalance in property values. Eventually, fewer and fewer buyers could afford, or even wanted to buy, homes with inflated price tags. Buyer demand dropped. Because of this, and other economic factors, selling prices on residential property had to drop.

To be fair, I don't know anyone who knew that the wild seller's market would end by early 1990. Unfortunately timing, however, has been costly to some who bought in the boom and needed to sell during the bust. Hindsight does give us 20/20 vision.

Today we have a weakened economy. It is another major factor in decreasing home prices. It is also the motive for more caution in would-be buyers. However, there are those who see this as a natural part of the cycle and recognize the proverbial "window of opportunity." These are the buyers who oppose the crowd mentality. They see DUNNING, page 25

Area Home Sales

ALAMEDA
3016 Adams St. - \$195,000
305 Carob Lane - \$285,000
3476 Catalina Ave. - \$252,500
935 Independence Dr. #A77 - \$240,000
2900 Lincoln Ave. - \$243,000
23 Redondo Ct. - \$355,000
2101 Shoreline Dr. #155 - \$166,000
510 Tideway Dr. - \$525,000

ALBANY
1111 Talbot Ave. - \$220,000
966 Ventura Ave. - \$281,000

BERKELEY
1236 Campus Dr. - \$185,000
2140 Carleton St. - \$295,000
7765 Claremont Ave. - \$177,500
50 El Camino Real - \$419,000
1145 Grizzly Peak Blvd. - \$305,000
1608 Josephine St. - \$212,000
1607 Lincoln St. - \$250,000
2025 Lincoln St. - \$284,000
2810 Mathews St. - \$329,000
1636 McGee Ave. - \$329,000
2141 Oregon St. #5 - \$104,500
2512 Parker St. - \$175,000
3219 Sacramento St. - \$160,000
1230 Talbot Ave. - \$106,000
1731 Vine St. - \$349,000
1728 Walnut St. - \$310,000

EL CERRITO
804 Elm St. - \$183,000
6820 Kenilworth Ave. - \$360,000
1300 Linda Vista Dr. - \$500,000

EL SOBRANTE
9 Birdsong Lane - \$398,500
543 Chabre Ct. - \$115,000
3549 Miflin Ave. - \$149,000
510 Pebble Dr. - \$140,000

EMERYVILLE
1025 47th St. - \$159,000

5922 Acacia Ave. - \$750,000
2 Admiral Dr. #B277 - \$145,000
6363 Christie Ave. #627 - \$172,000

OAKLAND
900 Aquarius Way - \$116,000
3577 Brunell Dr. - \$399,000
3165 California St. - \$165,000
3700 Carrington St. - \$120,000
4323 Evans Ave. - \$231,000
4612 Fair Ave. - \$130,000
683 Fairmount Ave. - \$270,000
5726 Fleming Ave. - \$177,000
11325 Greenbrier St. - \$245,000
10425 Greenview Dr. - \$310,000
1351 Hampel St. - \$259,500
7305 Hillmont Dr. - \$152,000
7701 Holly St. - \$107,000
2928 Holyrood Dr. - \$363,000
364 Hudson St. - \$245,000
5477 Kings Ave. - \$272,500
771 Kingston Ave. #307 - \$129,000

3616 Laguna Ave. - \$127,000
3921 Laurel Ave. - \$170,000
3220 Liese Ave. - \$170,000
4949 Manila Ave. - \$167,500
6079 Mazuela Dr. - \$900,000
5505 McMillan St. - \$250,500
4701 Meldon Ave. - \$167,000
395 Merritt Ave. #101 - \$780,000
566 Montclair Ave. - \$283,000
3627 Nevil St. - \$156,000
3905 Nevil St. - \$133,000

824 Northvale Rd. - \$360,000
1805 Northwood Ct. - \$317,500
6767 Oakwood Dr. - \$370,000
4191 Opal St. - \$144,000
407 Orange St. #409 - \$110,000
59 Ramona Ave. - \$245,000
3961 Rhoda Ave. - \$140,000
6035 Rockridge Blvd. - \$429,000
720 Rosal Ave. - \$220,000
197 Samaria Lane - \$225,000
20 Schooner Hill - \$185,000
8654 Seneca St. - \$110,000
26 Sheridan Rd. - \$575,000
7940 Sterling Dr. - \$127,000
1144 Sun Valley Dr. - \$320,000
4329 Townsend Ave. - \$265,000

1181 Trestle Glen Rd. - \$294,500
443 Van Dyke Ave. - \$220,000
373 Warwick Ave. - \$305,000
6509 Wheeler St. - \$180,000

PIEDMONT
1057 Harvard Rd. - \$332,000
1566 Oakland Ave. - \$495,000

SALES STATS BY CITY

ALAMEDA
TOTAL SALES: 8
LOWEST PRICE: \$166,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$255,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$282,062

ALBANY
TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$220,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$281,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$250,500

BERKELEY
TOTAL SALES: 16
LOWEST PRICE: \$104,500
HIGHEST PRICE: \$419,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$247,250

EL CERRITO
TOTAL SALES: 3
LOWEST PRICE: \$183,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$500,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$347,666

EL SOBRANTE

TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST PRICE: \$115,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$398,500
AVERAGE PRICE: \$200,625

EMERYVILLE

TOTAL SALES: 4
LOWEST PRICE: \$145,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$750,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$306,500

OAKLAND

TOTAL SALES: 48
LOWEST PRICE: \$107,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$900,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$252,854

PIEDMONT

TOTAL SALES: 2
LOWEST PRICE: \$332,000
HIGHEST PRICE: \$495,000
AVERAGE PRICE: \$413,500

This list was recorded for publication by Hills Newspapers for REM Reports, Inc. of Walnut Creek which obtains monthly records from the county recorder's office. Neither company guarantees accuracy or completeness of the information. Sales prices are estimated based upon applicable county transfer taxes.

Home builders host meeting

East Bay Habitat for Humanity, Inc., a non-profit organization that builds affordable housing for home ownership in partnership with lower-income families in the East Bay, is sponsoring an informational open house. Prospective volunteers or any other individuals or groups inter-

ested in learning about the organization's community efforts are welcome.

The meeting is on Wednesday, Dec. 14, 7 p.m., at Faith Presbyterian Church, 430 Webster St. (at 49th Street).

For more information, call 251-6304.

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339-4000

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This beauty combined with today's comfort. Double parlors, family room, dining room, breakfast room and amenities galore.
MARCUS 339-4000
- HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS**.....\$329,000
This Oakmore home perfect for a growing family to enjoy for years! Huge living room opens to large sunny yard - big master suite to enjoy and relax in.
PATRICIA BENNETT 339-4000
- VERY VOLUMINOUS! NEW LISTING!**.....\$319,500
Bedrooms, wide halls, large kitchen, French doors and fine detailing in this spacious 3 bdrm, 2 bath, 2 story traditional bordering Piedmont. Unsqueeze yourself!
DELLA SIMS 339-4000
- SECRET GARDEN**.....\$279,000
Located in this magnificent front garden with lovely brick work and enter this house split level home. Wander through spacious living room with marble fireplace, remodeled kitchen, 2+ bdrms, 2 baths, outside access.
NASSIRI 339-4000
- LISTED IN A PRIVATE KNOLL**.....\$269,900
Find space and quiet here on your own 1/4 acre, lovingly landscaped and wooded with quality and care. Cook's kitchen, fabulous master with skylight.
M.J. MCCONVILLE 339-4000
- BESTOR'S DREAM**.....\$260,000
North Oakland fourplex in appreciating area, lots of upgrades, 4 garages more.
ARNOLD MUELLER 339-4000
- LAND HILLS - \$4,000 GIVEAWAYS!**.....\$257,000
With credit towards cosmetics. Four bedrooms, including master suite, farm-rumpus. Totals over 2,400 sq. ft. New listing and motivated. Call now!
SHEK 339-4000
- LA BONITA**.....\$249,000
Completely restored, this beautiful traditional offers formal living room and dining room, hardwood floors, remodeled kitchen, 3+ bdrms, separate laundry and yard.
OLE NAHID NASSIRI 339-4000
- HARBORVIEW**.....\$209,000
The New Year in this bright, sunny home with great bay view, large private yard.
JENNIE LUPPINCOTT 339-4000



SUZANNE LINFORD 339-4000

Better Homes Realty
is pleased to
announce that
Suzanne Linford
has joined our office.

When you are in the real estate game for real...
play with a winner.

Born in Chicago, Illinois and raised in Santa Rosa, California, Suzanne has lived in Berkeley and Montclair and has real estate in Berkeley, Oakland, and Piedmont. She is married to Richard Linford, co-owner of Echo River Trips and is the mother of three grown daughters.

Suzanne has taught History and English; was Senior Financial Writer for such corporations as Kaiser Engineers, San Francisco, and VISA. She also free lanced in public relations for non-profit organizations and was for one year Executive Director of California Elected Womens Association.

Suzanne has sold real estate for ten years and is a "high-achievement" realtor who loves clients' dogs!

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2316 A BLAKE STREET.....OPEN SUNDAY.....\$198,000
2+BR, 1.5BA. Beautiful spacious townhome w/ a private garden! Seller motivated! Bring all offers. Call Leslie Avant for a private showing. 254-1232 eves.
1899 HARMON STREET.....\$219,000
Tastefully restored duplex. 2/1.5 upper unit. 2/1 lower unit. Good rents.
1827 ADDISON AVENUE.....\$299,000
A MIDTOWN MANSION. 4BR, 3BA Colonial revival style w/ great yard.
3108 CLAREMONT AVENUE.....OPEN SUNDAY.....\$349,000
Claremont English. New listing! 3+BR, 2BA. Remodeled kitchen. Mary Montali 948-3097.
20 OAKVALE AVENUE.....\$520,000
Secluded in the trees by the creek. 3BR/2.5BA with study, elevator, rear terrace.
7079 NORFOLK ROAD.....\$649,000
3/2+ home with a panoramic bay view of San Francisco & Golden Gate Bridge. Dazzling European design. Call Marlene Leverette 548-0709.
111 EL CAMINO REAL.....\$599,000
Flowing contemporary with 4BR, 2BA. Studies, solarium, decks, wooded garden with a secluded pavilion. Paul Templeton.
151 EL CAMINO REAL.....OPEN SUNDAY.....\$675,000
Stunning 4BR/2BA architect designed contemp. in the Claremont. A rare find!

KENSINGTON
398 COVENTRY ROAD.....OPEN SUNDAY.....\$275,000
Wonderful, remodeled 2BR, 1BA cottage, two blocks above the circle. Bright corner lot w/ lovely patio & garden. Jan Fougner 652-2133 x 138 or 655-8211 eves.

OAKLAND
5819 PATTON STREET.....\$245,000
Cute Rockridge bungalow across from Chabot school. Big sunny yard.
6762 BANNING DRIVE.....\$259,000
Great price for this spacious & quiet 3BR, 2+BA home needing cosmetic upgrading.

1972 MACELLAN DRIVE.....OPEN SUNDAY.....\$340,000
NEW LISTING! Fanciful Montclair Tudor. 3BR, 1.5BA w/ separate art studio.
5944 MILES AVENUE.....OPEN SUNDAY.....\$550,000
Stunning 4-year-old contemporary in Rockridge on Temescal Creek. Architect designed & hand crafted. 4BR/2BA or 2 master BR, each with study & bath.

6076 MANCHESTER DRIVE.....\$650,000
Formerly site of Julia Morgan's "RED GATE". 35,000 sq. ft. lot. Generally level, panoramic San Francisco & Golden Gate views. Call Jan Fougner 655-8211 eves.

PIEDMONT
3 CROYDON CIRCLE.....OPEN SUNDAY.....\$599,000
Stylish 4BR, 3BA two-story home on large view lot with an art-deco garden. Traditional central hall plan and cul-de-sac location. Jan Fougner 655-8211 eves.

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- 139 SHERIDAN. OPEN SUN 1:30-4:00! Fab. Mod. Villa on 18K sq. ft. lot, gourmet...\$895,000
kitch., 4BD/3BA, library, 3 trpls, many amenities. Sandi Klemmer 654-4804. MLS 033580
1855 MANZANITA. Montclair contemporary. New carpets. Move-in condition.....\$299,000
3 bedrooms, 2 bath. Reduced \$20K! Best buy! Marie Kenaga 339-1774 MLS 033283
378-50TH ST. Remodeled throughout! Charming 2BD/1BA bungalow with.....\$192,500
hardwood floors. Updated. Cheryl Gabriel 531-7000 MLS 035168
2833 MODESTO. Darling, immaculate 2BD bungalow with updated kitchen, bath.....\$162,000
Nice patio, yard. OPEN SUN 1-3:30. Sandi Klemmer 654-4804 MLS 035238

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- BEAUTIFUL MONTCLAIR! New construction. Not in fire storm area. 4 bedrooms,.....\$517,000
3.5 baths, FR, 3 fireplaces. Frank Hennelper 654-6461 MLS 032428
ATRIUM ENTRANCE. New construction. Reduced \$50k. Seller may carry a 15%.....\$449,000
2nd. Kitchen/fam room combo. 3 bedrooms, 2.5 baths. Dick Cohen 339-1117 MLS 030096
IDYLIC SETTING. Enjoy the peace & serenity of this custom 3 bedroom, 2.5 bath.....\$435,000
home situated on over 3/4 acre. Lots of space, charm. Nancy Novick 482-2392 MLS 034558
4-PLEX, ALAMEDA. Victorian, all 1 bedroom units. Original restored woodwork.....\$380,000
upgraded elec. water, heat systems. Frank Hennelper 654-6461 MLS 034623
PICTURE PERFECT. 1909 traditional beauty, plans with original woods, 11 rms,.....\$365,000
4+ bedrooms, spacious grounds, modern kitchen, Stan Hammond 839-5846 MLS 033379
BRAND NEW CONTEMPORARY. Great floor plan, soaring ceilings, open and airy.....\$349,000
3 bedroom, 3 full baths, FR off kitchen, canyon views. Mary Neuberger 635-9103
THINK BIG! Very large 7+ bedroom home on very large lot.....\$275,000
Cheryl Elliott 638-7809 MLS 034969
AFFORDABLE OAKMORE! Single level 2 bedroom, 2 bath with bay view.....\$246,500
Deck, new carpet & paint. Seller may finance. Stan Hammond 839-5846 MLS 035425
SPAN/MED IN REDWOOD HGTS. Charming 2 bedroom, 2 bath with plus room.....\$235,000
Panoramic bay view, workshop. Lovely home. Diane McCann 531-7000 MLS 035446
NEW CONSTRUCTION! EXCELLENT VALUE! Gourmet kitchen, hardwood floors.....\$219,000
fours, skylights, creekside setting. 2 bedroom, 2 bath. Dick Cohen 339-1117 MLS 035378
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SPACIOUS LAUREL TUDOR. 2 BD+ bonus room dwn., 1.5BA, natural wood trim.....\$179,000
hwdw flrs, 2 extra + rms, updated kitch., att'd gar. Lee Jacobson 654-5161 MLS 035416
BEST VALUE IN AREA. Cute cottage on pvt lot. 2 bedroom, eat-in kitchen, sun.....\$175,000
porch. Great location in grt neighborhood, assumable loan. Sandi/Dick 339-1117 MLS 035131
SOMETHING SPECIAL! You will be surprised at the beautiful detail in this.....\$174,000
spacious Spanish/Med. - flexible seller! Joy Bryden 531-7000 MLS 033689
CHARMING CRAFTSMAN IN MAXWELL PK. 2BD w/orig. wood details & built-in.....\$156,000
cabinets, hwdw flrs, trpls, country kitch, bsmt for storage. Kate Phillips 530-8211 MLS 034124
WHY RENT?! Seller may carry new 1st loan or try 5% down conven. financing.....\$134,950
2 bedroom single family home. Cheryl Gabriel 531-7000 MLS 034971
PERFECT STARTER HOME! Charming 2 bedroom, move-in condition. Hwdw flrs.....\$129,900
DR w/built-ins, sunny updated kitch, lots of closet space. Kate Phillips 530-8211 MLS 035021

CONDOMINIUMS

- JUST LISTED/BELLEVEUE STATEN. Tastefully redone unit. Traditional elegance.....\$233,000
& top security. Oakland's finest address. 2BD/2BA, FDR, FR. Noil Davis 531-9536
SEE FOREVER VIEWS! Attractive 3 bedroom townhome in gated community.....\$165,000
Cheryl Elliott 638-7809 MLS 034825
TWO STORY TOWNHOME. New constr. LR w/trpls, laundry in unit, 2 master.....\$165,000
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NEAT AND CLEAN. Well kept-stron management. High owner ratio.....\$65,000
Pool & laundry. Cheryl Gabriel 531-7000 MLS 034527
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Consider gift giving as way to dramatically cut estate tax

It's the season to think about gift-giving. For those concerned with reducing estate taxes, the availability of the \$10,000 annual gift tax exclusion can be a compelling incentive to make gifts to loved ones before the end of 1994. Gifts to your favorite relatives and friends today can dramatically reduce your final "gift" to Uncle Sam.

Under our unified gift and estate tax system, we're each entitled to give away a total of \$600,000 during our lives or at death without any gift or estate tax being imposed. Every dollar over the \$600,000 exemption amount is potentially subject to estate tax at rates ranging from 37 percent to 55 percent.

You are also entitled to make tax-free gifts of up to \$10,000 per recipient to any number of people each and every calendar year. These gifts are totally excluded for estate and gift tax purposes: no tax is imposed, and the \$600,000 amount is not reduced. For married couples, the annual exclusion can be used to shelter gifts of up to \$20,000 per recipient each year.

To illustrate the estate tax savings that can be achieved by making annual exclusion gifts, consider the following simple example:

Mrs. Farley has an estate valued at \$800,000, which she intends to leave to her four children and 12 grandchildren. If she dies in 1995, the estate tax bill — due and payable nine months from date of death — will be \$75,000.

Suppose she makes gifts of

\$10,000 to each of the 16 beneficiaries in 1994, and an additional \$10,000 annual exclusion gift to each of the four children prior to her death in 1995. Mrs. Farley's estate, now valued at \$600,000, will be totally exempt from estate tax — a \$75,000 savings by planning and accelerating (just a little, in this example) the transfer of her wealth to her heirs.

In deciding whether to reduce your estate by making annual exclusion gifts this year or any year, a number of factors must be considered. Some of these are obvious; others are not.

• Is your taxable estate likely to remain well within the \$600,000 exemption amount whether or not you make gifts? Don't forget to include the value of retirement accounts and the face amount of life insurance owned by you in making this determination. If there's no way your estate will exceed \$600,000 at death, making annual exclusion gifts may still be a great idea, but it won't save estate taxes.

• Are you concerned about giving away assets that might be needed for your own care? This is not an unreasonable concern in light of nursing home costs. While the recipient may be willing to help with your care if the need arises, there can be no guarantees. For the gift to be removed from your estate, it must be given away unconditionally.

• What if you want to give more than \$10,000 to one person? The gift will generally have to be reported on a gift tax return, and your \$600,000 exemption will

be reduced by the excess over \$10,000. However, your tax advisor may be able to help you achieve a better result by structuring the transfer as part-gift and part-loan. Annual exclusion gifts can be used to forgive the loan in \$10,000 increments in subsequent years. Be advised that the IRS may challenge this sort of arrangement as a sham if it is not properly structured.

• How about gifts to a spouse? Gifts in any amount can be made to a U.S. citizen-spouse without incurring tax, thanks to the unlimited marital deduction. While the availability of the annual exclusion isn't a factor in making these gifts, there will be other estate planning considerations. (For gifts to non-citizen spouses, there is a \$100,000 annual exclusion, and other special rules apply.)

• What if you want to make a gift to a child? It's rarely advisable, and sometimes legally impossible, to make a gift of \$10,000 in value directly to a child. You can make the gift to a custodian for the benefit of the child under the Uniform Transfers to Minors Act. Such gifts qualify for the annual exclusion, but beware: if you name yourself as custodian, the gift will remain in your taxable estate.



The Estate Planner
REBECCA CONRADI

• Gifts in trust are generally preferable for children and young adults for a number of reasons, but they must be carefully structured to qualify for the annual exclusion. This is because a gift must be of a "present interest" (for the recipient's immediate use and benefit) to qualify for the annual exclusion.

A trust for a child typically provides for payments for the child's education and other needs, and outright distribution when the child reaches a certain age — benefits which are not considered a "present interest." A gift to the trust won't qualify for the annual exclusion unless the trust contains some very particular provisions. You'll definitely need the help of your attorney or tax advisor in this area.

• What do you have to give? Gifts of cash are relatively uncomplicated, but gifts of property

raise additional questions. For example, what is the amount of the gift? It's generally the fair market value of the property, but the IRS may allow a discount in some cases. A discounted value means more can be given within the annual exclusion limit.

For example, if Uncle Bob gives a parcel of real estate worth \$50,000 to his five nephews, it can be successfully argued that these gifts aren't worth \$10,000 each; the lack of control and reduced marketability of a one-fifth ownership interest in real estate make the value significantly less — so Uncle Bob can give more.

Of critical importance is the tax basis of the property (generally, its cost, with certain adjustments) and how it compares with the property's current value. Has the property greatly appreciated in value? If so, it might make more sense to hold on to the property and transfer it to your heirs at death. This is because a favorable provision of the law "steps up" the tax basis of property transferred at death to the date of death value, with the result that pre-death appreciation entirely escapes capital gains taxation. In contrast, the tax basis of

gifted property "carries over" to the recipient, who may end up paying tax on pre-gift appreciation.

This doesn't mean it's a good idea to give away appreciated property. The estate tax may outweigh the gift tax cost, and future appreciation may be removed from your estate something else to consider deciding whether and when to give.

These are just some of the estate planning aspects that also be income and consequences to consider. Think about your tax advisor's number of personal considerations. To your tax advisor, the opportunity to use the annual exclusion will be

(This column is intended to provide general information and should not be taken as legal advice. Please consult an attorney if you have any questions about your particular situation.)

Rebecca Conradi is a lawyer in private practice in Montclair, and a frequent contributor to estate planning. She can be reached at 339-7178.

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JUST LISTED! \$131,000
Two bedroom split level design has ample storage throughout. Cozy living room with fireplace is perfect for those cold winter nights. Backyard is extra large with several sheds for tools and gardening. DARRELL HOH 527-9111/273-9505

When it's your move ...

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KENSINGTON - Spacious two bedroom, plus bonus room, large family room and hobby room. Separate dining room. Two fireplaces. Beautiful hardwood floors. Close to Kensington village shopping. **PRICE REDUCED! \$328,000.**

BERKELEY - Triplex, two one bedroom units and one studio. Hardwood floors. Light and airy. Off street parking, workshop. Walk to Campus and Shattuck Ave. shopping. All units vacant. **\$295,000.**

BERKELEY - Spacious four 2 bedroom units near Alta Bates. Each unit has study, dining area, private balcony and two covered parking spaces. **\$360,000.**

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OAKLAND CONDO \$109,500
Very sharp 2 bedroom, 2 baths condo on two levels. Pool, tennis court, spa, security. Priced well below market. #W30517
Jamie Lake 510-527-5230 or 510-235-8200

WALK TO EL CERRITO BART \$195,000
Unusually large, two bedroom home in El Cerrito. Family room, formal dining, patio garden and fenced yard. All within walking distance to Del Norte BART station and shopping. Great buy for a first time buyer! #W31362
Ed Messner 510-799-3527 or 510-235-8200

BEST LOCATION! \$499,950
Nestled on a private road at the peak of the El Cerrito hills, this home is one of a kind. Elegant living in a luxuriously spacious floor plan. Three bedrooms and three baths. Extra large lot for added privacy. Must see to appreciate! #W30804
Dwight Taylor 510-235-8200

EL CERRITO, SUNNY TRADITIONAL GEM \$227,000
Bay view from living room and backyard spa/gazebo. Updated 2BR, 1BA, with den and basement. 2 car garage with interior access, new Berber carpets, hardwood underneath. Property overlooks beautiful park! Mint condition home, clear pest report! #W30344 510-235-8200

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| 105 | \$159,500 |
| 106 | \$154,500 |
| 201 | \$149,500 |
| 202 | \$149,500 |
| 203 | \$139,500 |
| 204 | \$139,500 |
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FEATURED ALAMEDA INVESTMENT
This space reserved for your home

- *955 Shorepoint #112 - 1 BD, 1 BA condo at "The Shores"
- *125 Payot - 1 level, 3 br, 2 ba, 2 car garage, updated kitchen, fireplace, hardwood floors, 2 BD, 1 BA 1 BD 1 BA
- *905 Taylor - 3 units, 4 BD, 2 BA, 2 car garage, 2 BD, 1 BA 1 BD 1 BA
- *3011 Thompson - 3 BD, 2 BA, 2 car garage, inside District, \$398,000
- *2528 Crist - The Historic Spite House 2 BD, 1 1/2 BA, E. End, \$298,000
- *2258 Santa Clara - 5-unit Victorian, Professional offices, \$498,000

For additional information on these or other properties, call Tom Holstlaw

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RIGHT PROPERTY • RIGHT PRICE • RIGHT TIME

Dunning

Continued from page 23

fewer buyers, less competition and lower prices. They see now as the time to buy.

What stops people from buying? They may be afraid of the unknown, of making a mistake, of doing something so many others are not. Today's crowd mentality is not to buy. You may be thinking those who are not buying know something you do not know. It may all come down to not having enough information—the fear of taking an advised risk.

Moving toward an informed buying decision, there are certain steps you must take. The uninformed fear a weakened economy; the savvy see the advantage of it. To eliminate

that fear, you must first feel financially secure. If you don't feel financially secure, there may be no good time for you to buy a house. If you do, then proceed to the next step in making yourself familiar with some basic concepts about today's real estate market.

Many economists agree the change in California's financial situation is not temporary. It is a structural shift in the economy. This means if you expect the value of the home you buy today to increase in a short period, then the purchase is extremely risky. The amount of risk decreases the longer you own the home. As you know, the future selling price of any particular property can be no more than an informed guess.

However, if you need to sell it in less than five years, there is a very real chance you may take a loss. There are, of course, other factors which will affect your resale value, such as any improvements you may make in the home. Based on recent history, to minimize the risk and maximize the return, plan to buy now with the intention of holding on to the property for at least five years.

Avoid the mistake of paying too much for a home by making home buying a part-time job. Choose a professional, competent agent who knows the area in which you are interested. In addition to showing you representative properties, have your agent provide you with a list of available homes and those that have

been sold in the neighborhood. Spend some weekends looking at open houses.

After a while, you will get a sense of what sellers are asking and what they are actually getting. This will help you to make realistic offers. There is widespread agreement that the single most important determinant of value in real estate is location. Buy in the best area you can afford. Financially, it makes the most sense to buy less house in a better area than more house in a less popular one.

So, when is the best time to buy? Now, when most others are not. If prices decline further, after you have bought, the only negative impact should be if you sell short-term.

As for climbing mortgage rates, if you can comfortably make the payments on the house of your choice, buy now. You will most likely get both tax and appreciation benefits from buying. Later, you can refinance your home when rates go down. At that time, you will have a home that should be worth more than you paid and a lower mortgage rate—the best of both worlds!

Don Dunning is a 15-year real estate veteran and a Broker Associate with Wells and Bennett Realtors in Oakland. He can be reached at 531-7000, ext. 239.

MASON McDUFFIE... Welcome Home

OAKLAND / PIEDMONT

TRUE ROCKRIDGE CHARM \$625,000
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NEW PIEDMONT LISTING! \$579,000
Original charm from 1908. Clapboard siding, walk-up attic, 3 fireplaces and hardwood floors. 4BD, 3BA + den + sun porch. Deep lot w/level yard. Center of town—close to all! LOIS HEYDEN 428-0900

LIVE IN HORSE COUNTRY \$389,000
Lovely 3BD, 2BA ranch style home on a full acre of land. Keep up to 3 horses or just enjoy the seclusion.
MANOR 339-8888, 644-0808

DESIRABLE LOCATION \$379,000
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HINKLEY 428-0900



HOW SOON CAN YOU MOVE? \$340,000
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CATHY MOULTON 428-0900

BERKELEY



EXQUISITELY POLISHED \$349,000
Craftsman jewel with custom kitchen, great yard for gardening & walk-to-everything North Berkeley location. CAROL JEKABSON 849-3711, 527-3494

REDWOOD HIDEAWAY \$239,000
North Berkeley Hills. Woodsy seclusion, 2BD home with large patio and decks, fireplace & hardwood floors on large lot. Near Tilden Park. JEAN AUKA 849-3711

WESTBRAE CHARMER \$220,000
Great home near Westbrae shops. 3+BD, 2BA with a beautiful, remodeled kitchen. Fantastic backyard. Price reduced! HENRIETTE GREEN 834-2010

WEST COUNTY

ARCHITECTURALLY CORRECT \$299,000
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WAYNE PALMER 526-5143

DAG A BARGAIN \$191,500
Don't miss out on this wonderful 3BD, 2BA home with a view of the canyon in a peaceful neighborhood in Richmond. Hurry! It won't last long!
RAY SMITH 527-9800

SPACIOUS & CHARMING \$185,000
Two bedrooms in good location of El Cerrito. Close to transportation. Large fenced yard on an upslope. This is a real value. MONICA ROHRER 849-3711, 525-7805

HOLIDAY OPPORTUNITY \$293,000
Price reduced on this charming Dutch colonial in popular Crocker Highlands! 3 large BD, home office, eat-in kitchen & all the trimmings of the 1920's!
NANCY LEHRKIND 428-0900

A HOME FOR THE NEW YEAR! \$289,000
3 bedroom, 2 bath Montclair contemporary has a family room, large lot and privacy too. Well-kept and priced right—call today!
BERNADETTE 339-9290, 869-4231

STUNNING EUROPEAN CONTEMPORARY \$288,000
Oakland hills, 2 years old with panoramic bay views from 2 decks. 4 bedrooms, 2.5 baths fireplace and jacuzzi. Nothing like it at this price!
SUSAN CASQUEIRO 834-2010

2 STORY CRAFTSMAN HOME \$209,500
Spacious home in move-in condition. Near Grand Lake shopping, this 3BD, 2BA includes a comfy office. OPEN 2-4:30, December 11th, 498 Jean St.
LISA 835-6010, 834-2010

HOME WITH A VIEW \$185,000
Very clean 2+ bedrooms, 1 bath home with panoramic view. Breakfast nook, bonus play room, wall to wall carpet, fireplace and redwood deck.
C.H. SUTTON 527-9800

VILLA DEL LAGO CONDO \$153,000
Come see this delightful 2BD, 2BA unit in a very desirable building. New deck, many extras; garage space for 4 cars! V. MORAN 339-9290, 534-3038

FABULOUS NEW PRICE! \$199,700
Just pack your things and move right in to this squeaky clean 2BD split level, near North Berkeley BART! Garage, garden, workshop, new paint and redone floors. Adorable! MARCIA SCHWARTZ 527-9800

GARDENER'S DELIGHT! \$179,500
Privacy! Close-to-everything Westbrae location! Antique charm in a cozy package!
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EASY MAINTENANCE! \$149,000
Comfortable floor plan with fireplace, deck & patio for container garden! North Berkeley hills!
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BEAUTIFUL CONDO \$129,000
One bedroom condo at serene Oaktop. Located in beautiful North Berkeley hills. Close to UC. Never a condo listed below \$149K in Oaktop. This one is a bargain!
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PANORAMIC VIEW SUNSETS! \$180,000
Updated Tahoe-like 2BD home with eat-in kitchen, formal dining area, deck and partially finished/plumbed basement, deep lot with fruit trees in Richmond View.
527-9800

THE RIGHT HOUSE!! \$163,500
Wonderful 2+BD with fireplace and new hardwood floors in Richmond. Workshop with private patio. Move-in condition. KRISTEN NELSON 527-9800

CHEERY CONDO \$119,900
Contemporary living in this ground level condo with sun room and fireplace in Hercules. 1BD, pool and clubhouse. 527-9800, 215-2353

CLAREMONT HEIGHTS LOT \$75,000
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CONTRACTOR SPECIAL LOTS \$45,000
Contingent lots for \$135,000, fire area. CAROLINE PETERS 428-0900, 547-1722

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Coldwell Banker collects toys for needy children

Coldwell Banker sales associates want all children to experience holiday joy, so in cooperation with the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve, Coldwell Banker office locations throughout the Bay Area and Sacramento will be participating as Toys for Tots sponsors this holiday season.

Coldwell Banker offices will serve as official collection centers from now through Dec. 20 and will be sponsoring various activities around the toy drive.

The public is encouraged to participate and can bring in their new, unwrapped toys to Coldwell Banker offices in the greater Bay Area and Sacramento.

Coldwell Banker has been participating in the worthwhile drive for nearly 10 years.

Local Coldwell Banker Toys for Tots collection centers are located at: 6137 La Salle Ave., Montclair, and 1495 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley.

OPEN SUN. 1:30-4:30
150 PHOENIX LN, ALAMEDA

\$216K. Two bdrm., 2 full bath, one-level, end unit townhouse. Private patio, fireplace, kitchen remodeled in '92. Dues only \$150.

DAN STROHLAGENT
523-0197



Kim Castle, 5, is lost in a pile of coats for the homeless.

Sea of coats

There was no shortage of goodwill or holiday spirit this past weekend as people from all over the San Francisco and Monterey Bay areas dropped off thousands of coats at the offices of Fox & Carskadon/Better Homes and Gardens, a sponsor of Operation: One Warm Coat.

Each of the company's 33 offices participated by inviting the public to bring clean, usable coats to their local Fox & Carskadon office.

The holiday spirit was evident in the Orinda office of Fox & Carskadon.

According to Kate Castle of Montclair, donations from Piedmont, Montclair and Oakland yielded almost 30 percent of the total 230 plus coats collected by the Orinda office.

"Response from the community I serve was heartwarming," said Castle.

"Many people made an extra effort to look in their closets a second time when I mentioned

that these coats would go directly to the homeless. One little five-year-old even gave her coat to a little homeless boy waiting patiently by the office doors."

The coats collected by Fox & Carskadon were donated to local charities and organizations chosen by each office.

In all, over 18 organizations, from Novato to Monterey, received coats from the Dec. 3 coat drive.

At the company's Contra Costa County offices staff was expecting to collect even more than the 500 coats collected last year (this year's numbers not yet available).

They will be donated to Shelter, Inc., which then distributes them directly to the homeless.

Operation: One Warm Coat was organized in 1992 to collect coats from the community and distribute them to the homeless and others in need in the San Francisco Bay Area.

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SEE THE OPEN HOME SECTION FOR OUR WEEKEND OPEN HOUSES

When you fall for the first house you see

Consider yourself lucky if you find a house you like well enough to buy soon after you start your search. Some buyers look for months, and occasionally even for years, before they find the right house.

One problem with falling in love with the first house you see is that you probably won't know if the house is priced right. You also might wonder if there are other homes on the market that would suit you just as well, or perhaps even better.

Buyers who've searched for months for a home have the benefit of knowing the inventory. They've seen everything in their price range that might work for them. They've seen houses that subsequently sold so they've acquired some expertise about prices. Buyers who've looked at a lot of property know a well-priced home when they see it.

Another benefit of seeing a lot of property before deciding on one to buy is that you develop a sense for how realistic your wish list is. A wish list is a list of all the features you'd ideally like to have in the home you eventually buy.

Let's say you'd like to have a house with a two-car attached ga-

rage. If the first house you see is perfect except for the lack of a two-car garage, you may be inclined to hold out for a house that's a little more perfect.

But if you've looked for months in an area of older homes, or in a dense urban neighborhood, you may have discovered that houses with two-car garages are virtually nonexistent.

In this case, you'll know from experience that unless you want to look for a house indefinitely, it's wise to compromise where the garage is concerned.

Don't automatically rule out buying the first house you see. If you do find the house you want early in your hunt, the next thing you should do is have your agent give you a crash course in market value.

Have your agent prepare a comparative market analysis (also called a CMA) of the property you're interested in. This will give you a list of homes similar to the one in question that have sold and closed within the last few months. The CMA should also include a list of pending sales.

These are similar homes that have recently sold but where title to the property has not yet passed



Real Estate
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DIAN HYMER

to the new buyer.

The next step — and this will require time and energy on the part of you and your agent — is to look at as many of the pending sales as you can. Many sellers of pending listing will be willing to continue to show them to prospective buyers with the hope that a buyer may be willing to make a backup offer. (A backup offer is a secondary offer that will move into primary position if the first offer collapses.)

Looking at properties that have just sold is a way to educate yourself about market value.

Also have your agent show you all the properties currently on the market in your price range that may suit your needs. This way you'll know if there's anything else currently on the market that may work for you. Looking at

more houses should confirm whether or not the house you're evaluating is the right one for you.

Try to get a sense of how unique the house you're interested in might be. Ask your agent to provide you with a list of similar homes that have sold during the past year or so. Are there many homes like the one you're interested in, or is there a shortage of this type of house? If there are plenty of similar homes, there's less urgency to make an immediate decision. If there's a shortage of this type of house, you may need to move quickly.

To ensure you're not overpaying, include a clause in your purchase contract that makes the contract contingent upon the property appraising for the purchase price. But, don't make the mistake of passing up one of the first houses you see just because it's one of the first. You may be kicking yourself later for not acting quickly if you search for months and find nothing you like as well.

Dian Hymer is broker associate with Coldwell Banker in the Montclair/Piedmont office and author of "Buying and Selling a Home in California" (Chronicle Books, 1994).

Alameda home tour includes dessert tea, bake sale, raffle

Six spectacular Alameda homes will be featured on this year's annual "Holiday Home Tour" sponsored by the Alameda Family Service League.

Decorated for the holidays, the homes will be open on Saturday, Dec. 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

A major fund raiser for many years, the tour will also include a dessert tea, bake sale, and drawing.

Encinal Yacht Club at Pacific Marina will be the setting for the boutique and optional buffet luncheon.

Guests will be greeted by Santa as they arrive at each home and Christmas caroling and music will be provided by community musicians.

Shuttle buses and a motorized cable car will depart from a parking area on Triumph Drive at Encinal Yacht Club.

Frequent stops will be made between homes, and guests are free to take the shuttle from any point on the tour.

Throughout the day, drawing tickets for \$1 each will be available. Prizes include one week at a

Puerto Vallarta condo package toward airfare, an Oakland skybox, a pair of crystal sticks from Tiffany's, plus other gift certificates.

In addition, the seventh "Candlelight Preview Tour" will be held on Friday, Dec. 9, from 7-9 p.m. Four of the homes will be open for guests to tour and view.

Tour booklets are provided for each guest and provide details of the tour and descriptions of the homes.

Tickets are \$15 for the tour and \$17.50 for the tour and light Preview tickets are \$10. Children tickets which must be served in advance are \$5.

For reservations, call 522-1133.

Home tour tickets will be purchased the day of the tour at the Yacht Club.

To get to Encinal Yacht Club, take the Webster Street bus, turn left on Alameda, turn left on Triumph and go to the yacht club lot.

Proceeds from the tour will be used for the Home Tour will be held by the Alameda Family Service League.

YOUR WEEKEND GUIDE TO OPEN HOMES

OAKLAND Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

- 6035 WOOD DR, Restored Span Mission Revival, Fab Vws/ Grdn The GRUBB Co., Elizabeth Dickson 339-0400 \$995,000
- 139 SHERIDAN, Fab Med Villa, 18K Ft Lot, 4/3, Library, Frpls Wells & Bennett, Sandi Klemmer 654-4804 MLS 035580 OPEN SUN 1:30-4 \$895,000
- 6632 LUGGETT, Pied Side, 2 Legal Homes On Gated 1/2 Acre Lot Owner, 339-0687 OPEN SUNDAY 1-5 \$859,000
- 5981 GIRVIN DR, 4+3, Montclair's New Mercurial Artistic Mansion Better Homes, Carin Caroe 339-8400 \$850,000
- 6341 WOOD DR, 1st Open! New Listing! Elegant Hm, 4/3 The GRUBB Co., Karen Starr 339-0400 \$629,000
- 5944 MILES AVE, Stunning 4/2 Contemporary, Rockridge Templeton Co., 652-2133 \$550,000
- 14 YANKEE HILL, Decorated To Perfection! 3/3, Rec Rm, Vws The GRUBB Co., Anian Pettit Tunney 339-0400 \$529,000
- 6648 DAWES ST, Pied side Montclair, Lyl Property, 3/3, Nw Kit The GRUBB Co., Cheryl Knickerbocker 339-0400 \$525,000
- 11 HAWKS HILL, A Must See! Hiller Hglds 3 1/2, Magnificent Vw Coldwell Banker, Ollie Hammer 339-1174 \$425,000
- 5750 HARBOR DR, Pied Side Montclair 2+2 1/2, Medit Charmer! Better Homes, Jeanette Roach 339-8400 \$399,000
- 3108 ROBINSON, New Listing! Joaquin Miller 3+2+2 Contemp, Vw Mason McDuffie, G. Boomer 339-9290/ 869-4242 \$385,000
- 1290 ESTUDILLO, 4/1, 3000 sf, Frpl, Lg Lot, Park-like Mason McDuffie, Elaine Brown 834-2010/ 869-4946 \$355,000
- 19 BINNACLE HILL, Hiller Hglds 2/2 Townhouse, Many Upgrades Coldwell Banker, Ollie Hammer 339-1174 \$349,500
- 6389 LONGCROFT, Montclair 4/2 Contemp, Updtd Kit, Fam Rm Mason McDuffie, Bob Randall 339-8888/ 869-4242 \$349,000
- 3344 BUTTERS DR, Montclair South- 3/2 1/2, Sylvan Creekside Sting Better Homes, Helen Nicholas 339-8400 \$349,000
- 1633 TREBLE GLEN RD, Wonderful 4/2, FDR, Hwd Flrs, Must See \$349,000 Coldwell Banker, Victor Fierro 339-1174
- 1972 MAGELLAN DR, New Listing! Montclair Tudor 3 1/1 1/2 Templeton Co., 652-2133 \$340,000
- 4926 STONERIDGE CT, Reduced! Ridgemont 3+2+, Vws, Level Yd \$339,000 Pacific Union, Robyn Mohr 339-6460
- 308 TAURUS, Montclair Sunny 3/2 Contemp, Some Bay Vw Mason McDuffie, H. Converse 339-8888/ 869-4212 \$335,000
- 4361 TERRABELLA WY, Montebello Terr, 3/2 1/2 Nw Detch, Frpl Vw 530-5301 OPEN SUNDAY 12-5 \$330,000
- 6020 SNAKE RD, Montclair 2+2+, Dramatic Henry Hill Contemp Pacific Union, Kirk Phillips 339-6460 \$325,000
- 5674 COLTON, Montclair 4/3, Remodeled Kitchen/ Bath Mason McDuffie, Dave Johnson 834-2010/ 273-9808 \$319,500
- 6407 HEATHER RIDGE WAY, Montclair 4/2, Real Value! Better Homes, Alex Bidgoli 339-4000/ 376-2927 \$319,000
- 6669 THORNHILL DR, Private Setting, Nr Town, 3/2 1/2, Fam Rm Coldwell Banker, Dian Hymer 339-1174 \$317,500
- 6477 OAKWOOD, 3 bd Gadsby & Associates, Richard 748-5300 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$314,000
- 6519 VALLEY VIEW, 3/2, Fab Retreat, Grt Indoor/ Outdoor Living Mason McDuffie, H. Chew 428-0900 \$299,000
- 1855 MANZANITA, Reduced! \$20K! Montclair Contemp, 3/2, Move-in \$299,000 Wells & Bennett, Marie Kenaga 339-1774 MLS 033283
- 3063 CARLSEN, Lincoln Hts 3+2, 2800 sf, Vw, Flexible Mason McDuffie, Bill Boze 339-9290/ 869-4216 \$299,000
- 7612 SURREY LANE, 4/3, Bay Vws, Spacious, Great Areal! Mason McDuffie, Demetrius 834-2010/ 869-3740 \$289,999
- 1857 MAGELLAN DR, Montclair Unique Contemp, Nr Vigs, 3/2 1/2 Coldwell Banker, Adrienne Broche 339-1174 \$289,000
- 5439 ESTATES DR, 1st Open! New Listing! Archit Desgnd 4/2 The GRUBB Co., Debra Dryden 339-0400 \$289,000
- 7606 HILLMONT DR, Oak Hills Sting European Contemp, 4bd, Vws Mason McDuffie, Susan Casqueiro 834-2010/ 286-7571 \$288,000
- 5916 ALHAMBRA AVE, Montclair! 2/1, Gardener's Delight Better Homes, Helen Buty 339-8400 \$285,000
- 30 OVERLAKE COURT, Montclair 2+1 1/2, Cul-de-sac, Remod Kit/Ba \$279,000 Better Homes, Elaine Jones 339-4000
- 5321 THOMAS, Rockridge 3/1, Move-in Cond, Great Deal! Mason McDuffie, Mary Dresser 339-9290/ 869-4224 \$279,000
- 4255 NORTON, Redwood Hts 3/2, Come See Now! Better Homes, M.J. McConville 339-4000/ 287-9583 \$269,900
- 744 CALMAR, New Face Lift- Inside & Out! 3bd, Crocker Schools Coldwell Banker, Ruby Ng 339-1174 \$269,500

- 1675 E 38TH ST, Glenview Immaculate Cond 3/2, Full Bsmnt, FDR Mason McDuffie, Richard Matus 834-2010/ 287-2501 \$269,000
- 2074 DRAKE, New Listing! Immaculate, Updtd 3 1/2, Courtyd Mason McDuffie, K. Buchholz 339-9290/ 466-5509 \$264,950
- 4272 LAKESHORE, Spanish Level In, Triangle Lot- 90' Front Owner, 836-0416 OPEN SATURDAY/ SUNDAY 2-4:30 \$259,000
- 842- 842A WALKER, Reduced! 2 Units- 2bd Up/ 1bd Dwn, 2 Cr Grg \$258,500 Owner (Agnis 3%) MLS, 834-8768 OPEN SUNDAY NOON-4:00
- 2 EDGEWORTH WAY, Oak Hills 4/2 1/2, Wonderful Space Better Homes, Rosemary 287-9699/ 339-4000 \$257,000

- 10816 GOLF LINKS, Grass Valley 3 1/2, Great Value! Mason McDuffie, Lynn Calvert 339-8888/ 869-4246 \$249,000
- 5819 PATTON ST, Rockridge Bungalow, Big Sunny Yard! Templeton Company 652-2133 \$245,000
- 3027 ROXBURY AVE, Sheffield Vlg 3/2, Beautiful Setting, Hill Vws RE/MAX, Marina 569-5555 \$239,950
- 1488 EXCELSIOR AVE, Glenview 3/2, Rumpus, Sep Au Pair The GRUBB Co., Karen Starr 339-0400 \$239,000
- 3334 GUIDO, Redwood Hts 3/2, Spacious, Warm, EZ Commute Mason McDuffie, Ray Pruitt 834-2010 \$239,000
- 4000 MAPLE, Laurel, Absolutely Perfect 3 1/2 Colonial Mason McDuffie, Sharon Ho 339-8787/ 869-4220 \$235,000
- 4027 MIDVALE, Upr Laurel 3 1/2, Smashing Remodel, Rec Rm Better Homes, Rachel Baller 339-8400 \$230,000
- 3956 CANON AVE, "The Creekside", Stunning 2bd, Grmt Kit, Frpl 436-5759 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$229,000
- 4671 DAVENPORT, Redwood Hts 2+2 Cream Puff, Bay Vw Mason McDuffie, D. Otero 339-8888/ 869-4239 \$229,000
- 1656 ARROWHEAD, Montclair 2/1, Updtd Kit, New Paint/ Crpt Mason McDuffie, J. Nielsen 339-9290/ 869-4256 \$229,000
- 1386 HOLMAN RD, New Pricel Span Style, Completely Renov 4+2 The GRUBB Co., John Karnay 339-0400 \$229,000
- 498 JEAN ST, Grand-Lake 3+2 Large Craftsman Mason McDuffie, Lisa Friedman 834-2010 \$209,500
- 395 ADAMS, 4bd/ 1 1/2ba Coldwell Banker, Jerry Long 486-1495 \$209,000
- 4020 COOLIDGE AVE, Upper Dimond 2/1, No Pest Work! Better Homes, Arthur Macomber 339-4000/ 287-2658 \$199,000
- 4031 HUNTINGTON, Reduced! Upper High 3/2 1/2, New Constr Mason McDuffie, Jim Resor 339-8888/ 869-4251 \$198,000
- 3858 FOREST HILL AVE, Off 11fin Berk Brn Shingle Style 3/2 Better Homes, Hal Castle 339-8400 \$197,000
- 378 50TH ST, Remodeled Throughout! 2/1 Bungalow, Hdwd Flrs Wells & Bennett, Cheryl Gabriel 531-7000 MLS 035168 \$192,500
- 4101 MAYNARD, New Listing! 3/2 1/2, 2000+ sf Mason McDuffie, M. Wright 339-8787/ 869-4251 \$187,000
- 8327 NEY AVE, 2+1, Panoramic City View Mason McDuffie, 527-9800 \$185,000
- 4073 39TH AVE, Laurel 3/2, SF Vw, Dbl Lot, Bolted Foundation Mason McDuffie, Eunice 834-2010 \$178,000
- 3325 FLORIDA ST, Just Listed! Laurel Dist 3/1 English, FDR, Frpl Better Homes, Sandy Wong 339-8400 \$169,500
- 2461 RAVENWOOD, Ideal 3bd Starter, Private! Mason McDuffie, Bill Boze 339-9290/ 869-4216 \$169,000
- 3216 PARTRIDGE, 2-bd, 1st Time Buyer's Delight! Mason McDuffie, D.A. Hammond 339-8888/ 869-4219 \$165,000
- 2833 MODESTO, Darling, Immaculate 2bd Bungalow, Updtd Kit/ Ba Wells & Bennett, Sandi Klemmer 654-4804 MLS 035238 OPEN SUN 1-3:30 \$162,000
- 2851 55TH AVE, Maxwell Park 2/1, Move-in Today! Super Clean Mason McDuffie, Steve Everhart 339-8888/ 869-4221 \$155,000
- 3244 SUTER, Reduced! Laurel Very Clean 2+bd, Great Areal! Dimond Realty, Al 530-4991 OPEN SAT/ SUN 2-4 \$146,000
- 3467 LAGUNA, 1 1/2 Bungalow, Great Yard, Needs TLC The Prudential Linkmark RE, Phillip Fiar 287-9999 \$145,000
- 3318 GEORGIA ST, Spanish Style, 2/1, Wood Flrs, Pleasant Mason McDuffie, Dianne Campbell 834-2010/ 530-0596 \$143,000
- 3039 TEXAS ST, Dimond 2/1 Charming Trad, FDR, Remod Kit, Frpl Better Homes, 339-4000 \$139,000
- 8214 NEY AVE, 2/1 Sunny Bungalow, Bay View Mason McDuffie, Jackie Wallace 834-2010/ 869-4956 \$139,000
- 5166 FAIRFAX, 4 bd Gadsby & Associates, Larry 865-6015 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$139,000
- 2238 39TH, 2bd/ 1 ba Coldwell Banker, Nancy Taussig 486-1495 \$139,000
- 590 62ND ST, Price Reduced! Charm- Needs TLC Red Oak Realty, 527-3387 X-121 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$139,000
- 2850 OCTAVIA ST, 2/1, FDR, Hdwd Frt, Fruit Trees Mason McDuffie, E. Edwards 834-2010 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$135,000
- 388 SANTA CLARA AVE, Spanking New- 14 Custom Condos \$129,500- UP Better Homes IPM Co., Carol Warren 836-4800 OPEN SUNDAY 2-5
- 507 WICKSON AVE, APT 104, Remodeled 1/1 Security Prkg Condo Winters Realty, Tracy Valentine 893-2921 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$93,000

ALBANY Open Sunday

- 607 MADISON, 4bd/ 2ba Coldwell Banker, Lydia Melsen 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 \$315,000
- 1518 SONOMA, 3bd/ 1 1/2ba Coldwell Banker, Melissa Lyckberg 486-1495 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30 \$300,000
- 1134 MASONIC, Value Priced 4/2 Home Red Oak Realty, 527-3387 X-131 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$275,000
- 1205 DARTMOUTH, 3bd Crftsmn, Updtd Kit/ Ba, Huge Deck Red Oak Realty, 527-3387 X-103 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$219,000

BERKELEY Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

- 1509 LA LOMA, Elegant, Gracious 4+1/4, Plus Sep Unit Red Oak Realty, 527-3387 X-125 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4 \$850,000

- 166 HILLCREST RD, Claremont Brn Shingle, 4/3, Enchanting Grdn The GRUBB Co., Nancy Rothman 339-0400
- 1416 GRANT, 3+bd/ 2 ba Coldwell Banker, Karen Brand 486-1495
- 938 GRIZZLY PEAK, Sharp! 3/2 With Stunning View Red Oak Realty, 527-3387 X-118 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 3108 CLAREMONT AVE, New Listing! English 3+2 Remod Templeton Co., Mary Montali 652-2133/ 848-3097
- 864 ENSENADA, Reduced! 3+2+, Top Location Nr Solano Ave Red Oak Realty, 527-3387 X-110 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 1943 CEDAR ST, 3+2, 2 Story Trad, Wk- UC Campus Motels Pacific Union, Francis Heath 339-6460
- 1617 VISALIA AVE, 3/1, Thousand Oaks Jewell! Cosmetic Fix! Pacific Union, Joanna Gould 339-6460
- 1223 PARKER, 2bd/ 1ba Coldwell Banker, Melissa Lyckberg 486-1495
- 2316 A BLAKE ST, 2+1/2 Spacious Townhome, Motivated! Templeton Co., Leslie Avant 652-2133/ 254-1232 Eves
- 2320 8TH ST, Victorian charmer, 3/2, Detached Plus Room Coldwell Banker, Victor Fierro 339-1174
- 2571 MATHEWS ST, BOM 2+1+, Great Yard- Expandable! The Prudential Linkmark RE, Phillip Fair 287-9995

EL CERRITO Open Sunday

- 1324 DEVONSHIRE CT, 3+3, Frpl, Peaceful Paradise! Incred Value! Red Oak Realty, 527-3387 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 739 NORVELL, Reduced! Renov Kit & Bath, Peek Vw Red Oak Realty, 527-3387 X-125 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 2416 TULARE, Mt Tamew 1 Level, 3 1/2 Mason McDuffie, 527-9800 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 2645 ARLINGTON BLVD, Grt Hill Loc, Gr Rms, Big Lot, Fxer! Red Oak Realty, 527-3387 X-132 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

EMERYVILLE Open Sunday

- 4053 HARLAN, Lofts- Hist Bessler Bldg, No Pymnts- 3 Mos, M/G- Red Oak Realty 527-3387 X-105 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

HERCULES Open Sunday

- 326 CROWS NEST CIR, Contemp Living, 1bd Condo, Sun Rm, Mason McDuffie, 527-9800 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

KENSINGTON Open Sunday

- 168 HIGHLAND BLVD, 3+2+, Pano 3 Brdg Vw, Bonus Rm Pacific Union, Joan Hase 339-6460 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4:30
- 398 COVENTRY RD, Remodeled 2bd/1b, Corner Lot, Pkg Carport Templeton Co., Jan Fougner 652-2133 X138, 652-2131 Eves/ 652-2132

PIEDMONT Open Sunday 2-4:30 pm

- 284 MOUNTAIN AVE, 6 1/4, Approx 1/2 Acre, Libry, Fam Rm Pacific Union, Wyn Stephens 339-6460
- 45 ST JAMES PL, Elegant 4+3 Trad, Lg Fam Rm Mason McDuffie, James Garcia 339-9290/ 869-4212
- 141 ST JAMES DR, Fab Renovation, Stunning Kit/Fam Rm, 4 The GRUBB Co., Susan Veit 339-0400
- 343 MAGNOLIA AVE, New Pricel Charming Mod! 3+1 NWK! The GRUBB Co., Sheria Gallagher 339-0400
- 3 CROYDON CIRCLE, Stylish 4/3, 2 Story, Large Vw Lot Templeton Co., Jan Fougner 655-8211 Eves/ 652-2133
- 2040 OAKLAND AVE, 1908 Fxer! 4/3, Big Yd, Walk-up Attic Mason McDuffie, Lois Heyden 428-0900/ 273-9582
- 77 MANOR DR, Lovely 3+2, Nice Bk Yd, Frpl, Updtd Kit Coldwell Banker, Ollie Hammer 339-1174

RICHMOND Open Sunday

- 235 TUNNEL AVE, Pt Richmond, Remod 2 Story Victorian, 32 Mason McDuffie, 527-9800 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 1811 BUTTE, R. Annex Delight, Sunny, Versable 3+1/2 Red Oak Realty, 527-3387 X-113 OPEN SUN 2-4 - NOT OPEN
- 633 27TH ST, Rich N/E, Tri-Lvl MacGregor, 3bd, 2 Cr Grg Mason McDuffie, 527-9800 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

SAN LEANDRO Open Sunday

- 1825 ASTOR DR, 3bd Gadsby & Associates, Bob 523-6622 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 13735 SCHOOL ST, 3 bd Gadsby & Associates, George 748-5300 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4
- 642 VICTORIA CT, 2 bd Gadsby & Associates, Joe 522-9388 OPEN SUNDAY 2-4

Take time to protect home against seasonal hazards

Shorter, colder days. Mail or gift catalogs. Department store decorations.

The holiday season is here. As you prepare to deck the halls for this year's festivities, 'tis the perfect season to make sure your home is safe and hazard-free. The time it takes to protect your home and family may be one of the best investments you'll make all year.

The home improvement specialists at HomeBase warehouse offer eight hints for holiday home safety:

1) Brighten up. Dark outdoor pathways and entryways invite accidents by hiding unseen obstacles and uneven ground. To illuminate paths, driveways and doorways, consider installing an accent light set, motion detector light or decorative carriage lamps.

2) Get wired. Overloaded electrical outlets and faulty wires are a common cause of holiday-related accidents. Unplug appliances not in use, and utilize multiple power strips when running many appliances or decorative light strings. Worn out electrical outlets and plugs should be replaced but do not forget to unplug all devices before working on them.

3) Remember: where there's smoke, there's fire. Each year, the holidays are marred by news stories about tragic home fires. Test smoke detector batteries and make sure there are smoke detectors on each level of your home, especially near bedrooms. Small, portable fire extinguishers also offer protection in case of a small fire.

4) Avoid overheating. Space heaters are a safe and cost-effective way to warm rooms in use, but not the whole house. Take extra precaution against fire, however, by plugging heaters directly into the wall and keeping them away from drapes, furniture and other combustible items and ob-

structions.

5) Let there be light. Winter storms and power outages often go hand in hand. Store an ample supply of candles, flashlights and batteries, as well as battery-operated radio, in an accessible closet or pantry.

6) Check the fireplace. A glowing, warm fire enhances any holiday setting. For added safety, a fireplace should be outfitted with a protective fire screen, log grate, fire tools, and a fire-retardant hearth rug.

7) Don't be insecure. Despite tidings of "good will towards men," crime is pervasive during the holidays. At home, deadbolt locks, door chains, and security systems will provide extra protection. Light timers, as well as motion sensor lights and light bulbs, are cost-effective solutions to giving your home a lived-in appearance.

8) Know your numbers. Even in the safest home, accidents do happen. Check telephones to make sure that up-to-date fire, police and paramedic phone numbers are posted clearly nearby. All family members, including children, should also know how to dial 911 in case of emergency.

With the fun and frenzied holiday season underway, home safety should be at the top of your "to do" list.

Offering a broad selection of home security and safety products at everyday low prices, HomeBase warehouses are committed to meeting the needs of both casual shoppers and do-it-yourselfers.

HomeBase, one of the western region's leading chains of home improvement warehouses, currently operates 79 locations in 10 states. Based in Irvine, California, the company is a division of Natick, Massachusetts-based Waban Inc.

The Real Estate Section of Hills Newspapers welcomes your news, views, comments and questions. Please send information to Maggie Sharpe, Hills Newspapers, 5707 Redwood Rd., Oakland 94619, or call 339-4047. Our FAX number is 339-4066.

Project

Corner cabinet blends style with clever use of space

By Don and Dave Runyan

The fact that traditional corner cabinets are once again gracing contemporary homes is probably due to the design's combination of charm and utility.

Blending distinct styling with a clever use of space, these cabinets are ideal for filling empty corners in kitchens and dining rooms and for displaying a variety of china and collectibles.

The do-it-yourself corner cabinet pictured here is a classic example.

It fits snugly into a corner and has three display shelves behind paneled glass doors on top and two shelves behind wooden doors on the bottom.

It's built from pine and can be finished with a light, country-style finish or with a dark stain.

The required materials are easy to find and include standard pine lumber and two sheets of pine plywood, along with glass, molding, dowels and hardware.

The project requires several hours of careful work, but it calls mostly for straight cuts.

The decorative curved pieces

for the facing are simply traced onto wood from full-size patterns and then cut.

The completed cabinet measures 74 inches tall by 44 inches wide by 24 inches deep.

The corner cabinet plan, No. 659, is \$6.50 and includes step-by-step instructions with 12 photos, full-size traceable patterns, exploded assembly diagrams, and a complete shopping list and cutting schedule.

A collection of two corner cabinet plans (including this one) and two china cabinet plans, No. C26, is \$12.50.

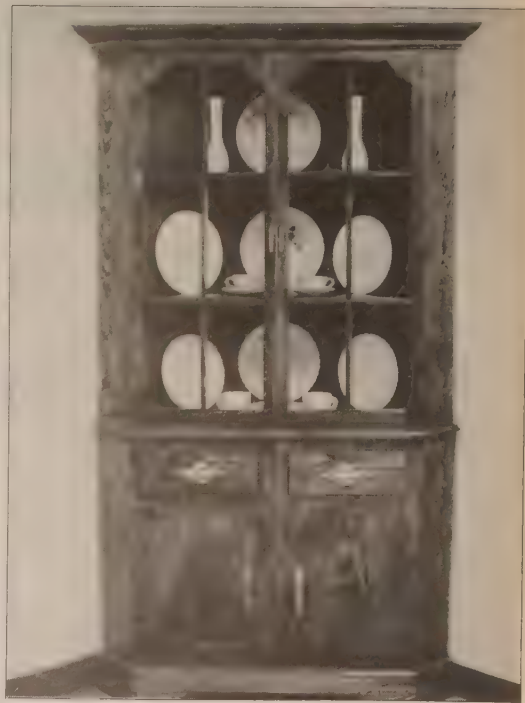
In addition, a catalog picturing hundreds of other do-it-yourself projects for indoors and out is available for \$3.95.

Prices include sales tax, postage and handling.

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Watershed events may signal time to rethink finances

By Lincoln Wong

Reaching a turning point in your life — a watershed event that really changes things — rarely provokes thoughts of money management. However, these turning points can often be important signals that your financial affairs need re-evaluating.

The following life events illustrate those times when you may want to stop and make sure that you are taking the right steps toward meeting your long-range financial goals.

• **You've changed jobs.** A job change could mean a change in your retirement plan and benefits. Those

who were previously in an employer-sponsored 401(k) plan have the biggest decision to make — whether to take the distribution in a lump sum and risk incurring a tax penalty or roll it over into an IRA or other qualified plan.

• **You've received a promotion or raise,** or come into an inheritance. If you receive a sudden windfall, you may consider increasing the amount you allocate each month to your investments. Even a \$100 a month increase to your investment portfolio can make a big difference. Automatic savings plans can help you take advantage of dollar-cost averaging. Dollar-cost averaging

involves continuous investment in shares of securities or mutual funds regardless of fluctuating price levels. Because of changes in the security price, some months your \$100 buys more shares, other months, fewer. Over time, however, this approach can yield a lower average cost for the shares of the security than otherwise. Of course, it doesn't protect you from a loss or guarantee you a profit.

• **Your marital status has changed.** Getting married really requires that you develop a new financial plan to reflect changes in disposable income and estimated Social Security and pension ben-

efits. A divorce can have the same effect.

• **You buy a house.** With the tax deductibility of your mortgage interest payments, you may consider a different allocation in your portfolio.

• **You are approaching retirement.** As you approach retirement, you'll want to re-evaluate the risk profile of your investment portfolio. You may want to switch to a more conservative investment approach.

Over their course, our lives can take many turns. Whenever your life takes a turn, make sure that your financial plan keeps up with you.

When it comes time to buy a house, seven out of ten people put a down payment on a newspaper.

In a 1991 study, reported in *Home Buying and Selling Process*, the National Association of Realtors (NAR), reported: "Since 1989 ...homebuyers who rely on newspapers have significantly increased from 41% to 58%."

These findings really shouldn't surprise anyone. After all, no other advertising medium reaches more people with the information they want when they want it.

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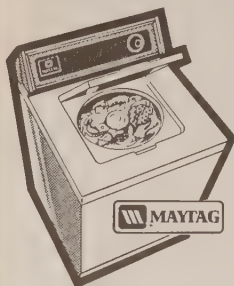
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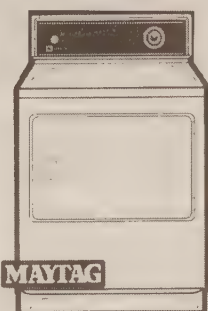
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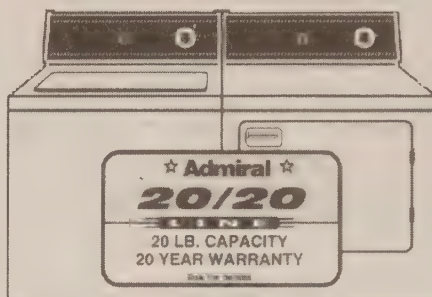


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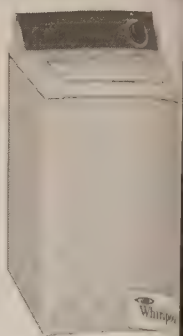
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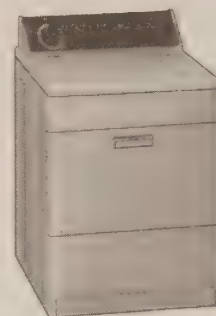
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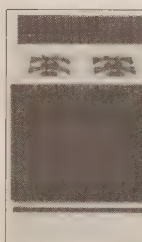
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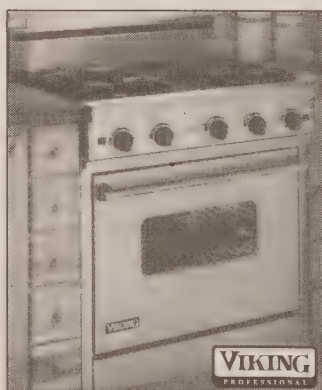


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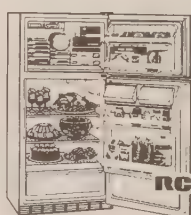
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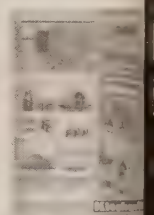


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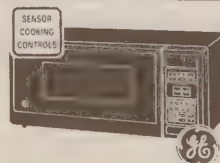
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The 1995 Eagle Vision: A real sports sedan

Know what separates a real sports sedan from the pretentious ones? Performance technology, and simple. It's what you'll find in abundance in the Eagle Vision, which Car and Driver called "enormously satisfying" (June 1993). Not just fancy wheels and eye-catching colors, but serious hardware like responsive engine and a sophisticated suspension. And around them, Chrysler's revolutionary cab-forward, wheel-to-the-corners design. You know when Chrysler first began making the Vision, they knew exactly what it had to be right out of the box: a driver's car with four doors, plenty of room for five, and loaded with the cutting-edge technology that's come to be the watchword at Chrysler Corporation. It's what you'll discover by taking the Eagle Vision test drive.

At the heart of every serious sports sedan is a design philosophy that puts the sophisticated performance demands of the driver first. That's why every Eagle Vision features a firmly supportive driver's seat with a standard adjustable lumbar support. And a steering column that tilts, so you maintain the best possible driving position. Beyond the steering wheel itself are clearly visible

The 1995 Eagle Vision

analog gauges and fingertip controls for all important functions. From standard power windows and door locks to electronic speed control and the optional 11-speaker Chrysler/Infinity Spatial Imaging Sound System. And since the driver's world extends far beyond the car itself, Vision's designers made certain the driver would have a clear view in all directions; especially fast-forward.

Creating a sports sedan is no

easy task. Say "sports," and people immediately think quick reflexes and firm control. Say "sedan," and a smooth, supple ride comes to mind. Put them together and something has to suffer. Not so with Eagle Vision. It features wheels-to-the-corners design and a fully independent suspension that provides an outstanding balance between ride and handling. Vision TSi's steering, which Automobile Magazine calls "communi-

cative," offers a firm, solid feel at highway speeds yet is easy to turn when parking. And when it comes to stopping and going, Vision TSi offers four-wheel anti-lock power disc brakes and optional low-speed traction control. All of which prove that the word "compromise" has no place in Eagle's enthusiast phrase book.

Just about any sedan you'd care to name can handle five passengers and a smooth interstate. But

what about twisting roads and less than perfect pavement? This is where Eagle Vision really shines, thanks to what engineers call rigid unibody construction. Using computers, Vision's technical team was able to create the stiff steel body that makes it one very strong car. Strong enough to dramatically reduce road noise and vibration, while helping to protect its occupants in a collision. So strong,

continued

Inside Moves

by Christine B. Needham

The outside of your car is sparkling and shiny, the coat of wax you lovingly, and painstakingly, applied is a work of art. But what about the inside?

Experts recommend making the inside of your car as "distraction-free" as possible by cleaning out all the junk that accumulates on the backseats, the back window ledges, the floors and under the seats.

Toys, ice scrapers, umbrellas, tennis balls and other bits of detritus can wedge themselves under a seat and can also roll forward to interfere with the driver's pedals. Not only does this type of cleaning make the car look better, you'll have a lot more room for sitting, but it's also safer. And just think how happy you'll be knowing you won't sit on some jagged piece of junk that can snag your clothes.

While you're cleaning, Healthline newsletter recommends vacuuming the interior and sponging off the upholstery. Snacking in the car often leaves behind sticky spills you don't really see. These crumbs and spills might make your car a haven for bugs in the warmer months.

Dashboards, armrests and steering wheels are great dust collectors. How often have you sat gingerly in the driver's seat, trying hard not to brush against something you know will ruin a good suit?

Finally, if you smoke or carry passengers who do, the windows and rear-view mirrors need periodic washing. Tobacco smoke film can build up and distort vision, especially during night driving.

The 1995 Jeep Cherokee: Legendary performance

has to do with heritage. At the time they were building 4x4s long before there was such a thing as a utility category. As one of the most legendary performance vehicles, Jeep Cherokee has seen its share of rock, mud pits, and other tests of the unpaved world. Its capability is just part of the Cherokee story. In a Jeep Cherokee, you'll also find comfort, value, safety, and amazing reliability. All wrapped in a class-leading Cherokee is offered in four-door and four-door body styles in both two-wheel drive and four-wheel drive models.

There's more than one way to get from Point A to Point B, particularly if you have four-wheel drive. When the 4x4 is a Jeep Cherokee, you have another choice: part-time or full-time four-wheel drive. The four-wheel drive Jeep Cherokee comes in both varieties.

The high-output 4.0 litre engine that is standard on Sport and Country (optional on SE) produces 190 horsepower with six cylinders of in-line smoothness. Torque delivery peaks at 225 foot-pounds. When it's equipped with the Trailer Tow Group and 4.0 litre engine,

Cherokee can haul a load weighing as much as 5000 pounds.

The 2.5 litre engine that comes standard on Cherokee SE is one of the mightiest 4-cylinders out there with 130 horse-power and 149 foot-pounds of torque.

Both engines are paired with a 5-speed manual transmission that features an adjustment-free clutch. A 4-speed overdrive automatic transmission with lockup torque converter is optional on models equipped with the 4.0L engine.

Jeep Cherokee utilizes a unique suspension setup that doesn't sac-

rifice ride, handling, and comfort for off-highway prowess.

A solid front axle is traditionally favored for off-highway use. The Quadra-Link® front suspension combines a solid front axle with coil springs and four locating arms. With the locating arms and coil springs accurately positioning the axle, the result is excellent handling, stability, and control on paved or unpaved driving surfaces. The suspension system of Jeep Cherokee also affords the vehicle an amazing 9.4 inches of running ground clearance.

Jeep Cherokee also has front

and rear stabilizer bars that minimize body roll during cornering, as well as a front track.

Standard power steering helps make Jeep Cherokee easy to park and maneuver. The turning diameter of Jeep Cherokee, 25.5 feet, is comparable to that of an ordinary passenger car.

Jeep Cherokee is also equipped with standard power brakes. An anti-lock brake system (ABS) that works on both the front and rear wheels is optional on models with the 4.0 litre engine. By preventing the wheels from locking up, ABS

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Eagle

continued

in fact, that is actually increases the effectiveness of Vision's four-wheel fully independent suspension in tight turns and on rough roads. What's more, Vision's body undergoes a 21-step paint and finishing process that helps keep the effects of time and the elements in what you might call "the slow lane."

Few sports sedans have ever looked as fiercely capable as Eagle Vision. Both the overall shape and individual details of its innovative cab-forward design suggest outstanding aerodynamics. But that

alone can't explain the critical acclaim Vision's design has received worldwide. Rather, it's the effectiveness of Vision's revolutionary wheels-to-the-corners approach to automotive architecture. A long wheelbase helps produce a better ride. A wide stance translates into greater stability. And, with the wheels farther out, there can be more room for passengers and their luggage. Not to mention all the honors bestowed on Vision by the motoring press, including being named one of Automobile Magazine's "All-Stars" and mak-

ing Car and Driver's "Ten Best" list two years straight - and counting.

As any race car driver will tell you, feeling safe and secure will make you a more confident driver. Which makes driving a sophisticated sports sedan like Eagle Vision even more fun. To that end, Vision features standard dual air bags, side-guard door beams that already meet the 1997 federal dynamic side-impact standards, rear child-protection door locks, and easy-to-use three-point seat belts for all outboard seating positions.

What's more, Vision's front seat belts are height-adjustable to provide greater comfort for tall or short passengers. There's even a special option for small children; an integrated child safety seat. Because the only thing more important than knowing you're safe and secure is knowing all your loved ones are.

No matter how good a sports sedan is at slicing through a slalom course or racing through the quarter-mile time traps, the fact remains that it must be equally adept at transporting five people

through the real world. That means it must do more than coddle its driver. It must address the needs of all of its passengers with the kind of comfort and convenience once reserved only for luxury cars. Eagle Vision does. With an interior Motor Trend magazine deemed "huge." Rear seat passengers get overhead assist handles, reading lamps, a center folding armrest and their own air vents - all standard. There's even a choice of premium, sound systems including a compact disc player and a dealer-installed

trunk-mounted six-disc stereo. So you can tune in, turn head on out.

Slip behind the wheel of Eagle Vision and experience the design, handling, comfort and convenience awaiting you.

Jeep

continued

helps the driver maintain steering control under heavy braking.

Unlike other sport utilities, Jeep Cherokee is, at the core, an integral frame and body unit. UniFrame construction helps Jeep Cherokee stand up to rigorous conditions. There's the added benefit of reduced weight, which translates into quicker acceleration, better fuel economy, shorter braking distances, and more agile handling. Not to mention the best weight-to-horsepower ratio in the class.

With its rear seat folded, Jeep Cherokee has a cargo capacity of 71.6 cubic feet - an area nearly five feet long, more than four and a half feet wide, and better than three feet high. Tie-down hooks on the floor help you secure a load. Easy access to the cargo area is via a swing-up liftgate. If cargo room is a concern, another feature to consider is the swing-away rear tire carrier. This Mopar dealer-installed accessory allows you to mount a full-size spare on the rear bumper.

Recline your seat. Adjust the air conditioning. Slip a cassette into the player. You don't have to forgo personal comfort to drive a vehicle with real fortitude. You can turn Jeep Cherokee into one of the most relaxing spots on earth.

Front seats recline on all Cherokee models, and on Cherokee Country, seats trimmed in genuine leather are optional. The Country also has a console with a handy storage bin, armrest, and a pair of detachable cup holders mounted between the front seats. The air conditioning system, also optional, uses a CFC-free refrigerant. An AM/FM electronically tuned stereo with four speakers (two on SE) is standard. Options include a set of six Accusound by Jensen® speakers, a four-speaker cassette stereo with Dolby®, and a Mopar CD player.

A trait all Cherokee vehicles share is an innate ability to impart a feeling of confidence. Maybe it's the vantage point, a little above everyone else. Maybe it's the protection of a standard driver's air bag. It could be knowing you can go pretty much where you want, when you want. Then again, maybe it's one of those things you can't put into words. Maybe you just have to drive it.

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Insurance
agency,
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A Full Service Agency
Versailles at Fernside

523-2924

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World Famous Lee Auto Supply
Proudly Presents the Complete
Line of Dick Cepek Products

Stop by for all your on & off road necessities!
John Rossillon (Formerly w/Four Wheel Parts)

Open 7 days a week
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- New Car Dealers
- Used Car Dealers
- Auto Repair & Service
- Auto Parts
- Auto Rentals
- Tire Dealers
- Auto Paint
- Auto Electrical
- Auto Insurance
- Auto Upholstery

The Hills Newspapers
Alameda Journal • Montclarion
Piedmonter • Berkeley Voice
El Cerrito Journal • Family Fair

AUTOMOTIVE SECTION

Call
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We have the **WARRANTY**
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Again

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| Auto & Live-Work Space | 800 |

RATES 339-8777

| | 1 week | 2 weeks | 3 weeks | 4 weeks | ea. additional week* |
|----|---------|---------|----------|----------|----------------------|
| 15 | \$20.00 | \$39.00 | \$57.00 | \$70.00 | \$17.50 |
| 20 | \$24.25 | \$47.50 | \$69.75 | \$86.00 | \$21.50 |
| 25 | \$28.50 | \$56.00 | \$82.50 | \$102.00 | \$25.50 |
| 30 | \$32.75 | \$64.50 | \$95.25 | \$118.00 | \$29.50 |
| 35 | \$37.00 | \$73.00 | \$108.00 | \$134.00 | \$33.50 |
| 40 | \$41.25 | \$81.50 | \$120.75 | \$150.00 | \$37.50 |
| 45 | \$45.50 | \$90.00 | \$133.50 | \$166.00 | \$41.50 |
| 50 | \$49.75 | \$98.50 | \$146.25 | \$182.00 | \$45.50 |
| | 1 week | 2 weeks | 3 weeks | 4 weeks | ea. additional week* |
| 55 | \$29.50 | \$56.05 | \$82.60 | \$109.15 | \$26.55 |
| 60 | \$33.75 | \$64.55 | \$95.30 | \$125.35 | \$30.55 |
| 65 | \$38.00 | \$73.05 | \$108.10 | \$141.55 | \$34.55 |
| 70 | \$42.25 | \$81.55 | \$120.85 | \$157.75 | \$38.55 |
| 75 | \$46.50 | \$90.05 | \$133.60 | \$173.95 | \$42.55 |
| 80 | \$50.75 | \$98.55 | \$146.35 | \$190.15 | \$46.55 |

*Additional week rate applies only when the ad is originally ordered for more than 4 weeks. All charges for bold face, centered lines and capitalized words.

Deadlines, Policies, Cancellations

| Advertising | Deadlines | Deadlines |
|-------------|------------------|-------------------------------|
| Advertising | Tuesday/Thursday | Deadline: 11:00 a.m. Monday |
| Advertising | Friday | Deadline: 11:00 a.m. Monday |
| Advertising | Tuesday/Thursday | Deadline: 4:00 p.m. Friday |
| Advertising | Friday | Deadline: 11:00 a.m. Thursday |
| Advertising | Tuesday/Thursday | Deadline: 11:00 a.m. Friday |
| Advertising | Friday | Deadline: 11:00 a.m. Friday |

We make every effort to avoid errors in advertisements. Please check your ad the first day it appears. If an error is noticed, call (510) 339-8777 immediately to inform us and to make corrections. We are not responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, or for errors that do not affect the value of the ad. Liability is limited to the cost of space occupied by the ad. We cannot promise the order in which ads appear under one heading.

Cancellations: We retain the number you are given at the time you place your cancellation order. No refund will be made without a cancellation number. REFUNDS, CREDITS AND ADJUSTMENTS WILL BE MADE FOR REMAINING FULL WEEKS ONLY.

Mail/Fax-a-Want-Ad Form

Send your ad and mail/fax to: 6208 La Salle Ave., Oakland, CA 94611 • Phone (510) 339-8777 • Fax (510) 339-6101

Name _____ Day Phone _____

Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

Payment ☐ Cash ☐ Check ☐ Money Order ☐ MasterCard ☐ Visa

Card No. _____

Expiration date _____

Comments (no abbreviations) _____

Automotive

101 Autos

ALL Autos Wanted. Full Internal Revenue Service Tax Deduction for 1993 to help the Homeless Children. Please call us at 415-871-0885. We need Vans, Cars, RV's, Trucks. Thank you.

BMW 528i, 1983, 1986 engine, rebuilt transmission December 1994. Original owner, \$4950 452-3535, 658-0396 evenings

BMW 528i, 1979, looks and runs great. Automatic, 117K miles \$3800 Must sell 658-2912

CADILLAC, 1972 Sedan DeVille, new tires, new battery, runs great. Spare parts included, wires, belts \$2000 or offer. 351-7542

FORD Festiva 1989, 2 door hatchback, 35-40 mpg, 4 speed stick shift, under 27K original miles. Best offer over \$4000 763-3604

HONDA Civic, 1987, 4 door, front end is crushed. Selling for excellent condition engine and body parts \$1,000 or best offer. 531-7037

HONDA Prelude, 1985, 65K, 5 speed, sunroof, cruise, excellent condition \$4900/ best offer (510)268-1004

MAZDA 929, 1989, black, loaded, excellent condition, phone, CD, leather, one owner. \$11,000/ Offer 652-1077

MERCEDES, 1975 450SL, 2 tops, light blue, high miles, \$9500. Runs great 339-1055

NISSAN Truck, 1986, good condition with shell. Call Bernadette 482-9620

TOYOTA, 1984 Celica GT, white, 86K, 5 speed, air, sunroof, cruise, white, cassette \$4,500 (510)524-7030

Announcements

201 Announcements

BOY Scout uniforms. Clean out the closet and recycle them to help youngsters. Leave at The Montclair office

BACK in the area, Marlene Fontes formerly from Montclair Hair Co., now at Olive Salon, 5303 College Ave., Oakland 652-5454 30% off services by Marlene.

202 Fantastic Great Events

FAMOUS Paris Agent comes to Powers Models and Talent One Day Only to scout new local talent. Found side free of charge for 2 weeks (maximum 15 words).

203 Found

DOG found November 30, Montclair Hills, Irish Setter/golden mix, no collar. Call 528-9571.

GRAY striped kitten, top of Chelton December 4 Very affectionate. 482-4880

204 Giveaway

As a community service The Hills Newspapers is pleased to offer Giveaway side free of charge for 2 weeks (maximum 15 words).

FREE kittens, 2 males, 2 females, 1 black, 1 gray, 2 calico 652-4149

ADORABLE, smart, gentle, yellow lab/ shepherd puppy, 10 weeks, loves children. Family allergies 339-2177

HEALTHY Marx cat, female, FIV positive. Needs indoor home/ no other animals. Very affectionate 547-6937

FREE 1/2 grown cats need homes. Healthy, cute, playful. Call 530-8897 I have voice mail

LARGE gray and white male cat. Rear legs, gray, front legs, white. Reward: (510)658-9970

JACK Russell Terrier, female, brown/black markings, "Alli", Off Park Blvd./ El Cerrito. Reward \$482-5719

LOST cat 6 month female, long hair Tabby, short tail, Vista Vista/ Santa Clara. 763-4541

207 Research Studies

VOLUNTEERS needed. Women, clerical workers, married/ living with partner, with/ without children. Single parents, 30 minute questionnaire (510)523-2300, ext. 118

Education

302 Childrens Schools & Camps

CIRCLE PRESCHOOL Offers programs for curious children ages 18 months to 6 years. 547-6447

SMILES DAY SCHOOL Pre-school program 2.9-5 years. Full-time and part-time. Before and after school program. Pick-up and delivery to local elementary schools 7:30-6:00 339-3830

303 Instruction & Tutoring

A LEARNING PLACE Reading, Language Arts, Math, Science, SAT Prep, Diagnostic Testing. Oakland/Berkeley 531-2500

REACH FOR LEARNING Reading, Writing, Spelling, Math, Diagnostic Testing, College Counseling, Children and adults 545-5455

CERTIFIED Teacher-tutor, multi-sensory instruction. Reading, writing, spelling, math. References Nancy, Berkeley. 524-7064

MATH Tutor Classroom teacher, B.A. Mathematics, over 15 Alameda and Albany cities. Henri Duhamel, 531-9576

THE FAMILY COOKERY Private and group classes offered in planning and preparing excellent meals in one day! Last an entire month. Call (510)927-6439

MACINTOSH tutor, patient and experienced, beginner/intermediate. Purchasing advice, modem, memory, system upgrades. Julian 237-2105

BLOOD Drawing Phlebotomy course by Boston Red Cross Company. Call 1-800-201-1141. State registered instructor. #280291

304 Musical Instruction

DRUM Lessons, all ages and levels, with patient Berkeley College of Music Professor. Alan (510)339-6716

FLUTE lessons; experienced, creative teacher accepting students, all levels, all ages, Oakland hills studio, 531-0609

SELLING A CAR? Call 339-8777

304 Musical Instruction

GUITAR or bass lessons 25 years experience Very patient. (Berkeley special rate) Gene, 531-5625 message

PIANO Lessons for all ages and levels Taught with a light touch! Leslie 524-3856

Employment

401 Help Wanted

ATTENTION DECEMBER GRADS: Entry level long term assignments and full-time positions are available for a very desirable company. Call for appointment

TOD, Inc.

San Francisco (415)392-0700
San Mateo (415)574-8900

ADMINISTRATIVE/ Clerical, part-time, in existing financial office. Phone, WordPerfect, filing. Detail-oriented, self-motivated. Send resume Fax (510)635-3052; call (510)635-7615

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: University of California Davis. East Bay, Oakland Part-time position. Monday-Friday, 1:30-5 p.m. (Full-time) salary \$1757-\$2065; Assistant to Department Chair and Administrative Assistant; heavy telephone, schedule and coordinate appointments and meetings. Office represents cities and other work processing using WP5.1, some data entry. Requires excellent organizational skills, verbal and written communication skills and proofreading skills; knowledge of medical and technical terminology. For required application materials call (510)437-4665, or fax request to (510)437-4669. 20-30 hours/week. Must have a minimum of typing is required. Final filing date for VL #4-2000 is December 21, 1994 E.O.E.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT: University of California Davis. East Bay, Oakland Part-time position. Monday-Friday, 1:30-5 p.m. (Full-time) salary \$1757-\$2065; Assistant to Department Chair and Administrative Assistant; heavy telephone, schedule and coordinate appointments and meetings. Office represents cities and other work processing using WP5.1, some data entry. Requires excellent organizational skills, verbal and written communication skills and proofreading skills; knowledge of medical and technical terminology. For required application materials call (510)437-4665, or fax request to (510)437-4669. 20-30 hours/week. Must have a minimum of typing is required. Final filing date for VL #4-2000 is December 21, 1994 E.O.E.

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Better Jobs! Better Money! Better Holidays! Bradford has many immediate East Bay temporary and career administrative positions if you know Word, Windows, dBase and/or Excel. Great Pay! Top company! Benefits, too! We need:

- Receptionists
- Office Clerks
- Data Entry
- Executive Assistants
- Telemarketers

Call 272-9911 or Fax: 272-0212 BRADFORD PERSONNEL 1970 Broadway, Oakland 94612

ADMINISTRATIVE Assistant to landscape general manager. Coordinate multiple projects, compile business schedules. Work independently, meet deadlines, computer skills. Fax or send resume to: McDonough, Holland & Allen, 555 Capitol Mall, 9th Floor, Sacramento, CA 95814. Attention: Eileen Fax: (916)444-3311 EOE

LEGAL secretary, part-time, permanent, good skills, experience necessary \$15 hour. Lake-shore area. See practitioner 632-5060

MAINTENANCE PERSON East Bay property manager needs very experienced, well-rounded worker. Carpentry, electrical, plumbing, plastering, painting. Must have tools! Truck CDL. ERI 949-3724

MEDICAL OFFICE Immediate full-time opening, caring individual with computer background, 945-7798, 10-noon or after 5:00 pm. 1844 San Miguel Dr #310, Walnut Creek 94596

MEDICAL SECRETARY/BILLING Medical billing experience needed. Full time, benefits. Send resume to General Vascular Surgery, 2940 Webster, Oakland 94609 EOE

Medical Secretary/Billing Medical billing experience needed. Full-time benefits. Send resume to General Vascular Surgery, 2940 Webster, Oakland 94609 EOE

Medical Staffing Coordinator Are you looking to supplement your income and work from home? Alternate week night/ weekend for busy home care Oakland agency. We require a mature individual with excellent people, phone and computer skills for after hours staffing. Free resume and cover letter to (510)654-1960

BOOKKEEPER (Full charge) Administrative assistant. Environmental consulting firm. Fax resume and cover letter to (510)654-1960

BOOKKEEPER MCCALLOUGH'S DEPARTMENT STORE MONTCLAIR has part-time position Saturday, Sunday mornings 10:00 by 12:00. 2 weeks of experience required. \$6-8 hour, dependent on background of experience. Free. Marketing employment agency. Apply in person 6211 Marking Ave., Oakland

BOOKKEEPER/ Receptionist Computer experience preferred for busy North Berkeley dental office. Come join our great staff 526-1425

Bus Driver Class B license high school diploma, 1 year experience, drive small bus, prefer job. Transport elderly clients. Oakland route \$7.40 hour, 3-5 p.m., Monday Friday and bank up hours. Call BACS attention P Schroeder (510)436-2311

Business BOOMING Need 18-26 people immediately. No Experience necessary. EOE (510)884-3541

BUSINESS Manager. Skilled handling of telephone, patient appointments, public relations, collections. Basic computer skills 510-428-2532

CHOCOLATE and Candy shop Piedmont Ave. Personable and responsible person needed. Part-time/Full-time 510-655-1860

CLERICAL part-time for manufacturer's representative. Phone computer experience required. 10-15 flexible hours/week 531-3839

COOPERATIVE Cleaning Company is hiring cleaners \$6/hour to start, experience not necessary. Full-time, CDL required. EOE, non-homophobic. Call 849-0695

Piedmont based firm seeking Credit Analyst with 2-3 years in commercial collections. Must be able to work reductions/disputes, reconcile aging reports and communicate well, both verbally and in writing. Requires computer literacy. Include soft resume and salary history to (510)654-7759

DENTAL hygienist, full-time/part-time Use all your skills in our busy family practice. Fax resume to 252-4534

DENTAL RDA 2 days/week for busy family practice. Fax resume to 252-4534

401 Help Wanted**THE SAN FRANCISCO POLICE DEPARTMENT****IS NOW HIRING POLICE OFFICERS**

Applications available
December 9 through
December 16, 1994

Completed applications
must be postmarked no later than
December 16, 1994

Women and minorities
are encouraged to apply
For more information call

(415) 553-1999

SFPD Recruitment Unit

VETERINARY technician/receptionist for progressive East Bay practices Resume: CVO, 944 San Pablo, Albany 94706

VETERINARY Receptionist/technician for busy hospital full-time including Saturdays. Wide variety of duties. Computer experience a plus, but will train. Salary and benefits depending on experience. Bring resume to: Claremont Veterinary Hospital, 7331 College Ave., Oakland. No calls will be accepted

WAREHOUSE assistant manager, minimum 2 years experience, minimum typing, part-time, full-time possibility. Resume: 1442A Walnut St., #120, Berkeley 94709.

402 Caregiver-Domestic Help Wanted

HOUSEKEEPING, laundry, ironing, organize, good English, walk dog, occasional childcare \$7/hr. References: El Cerrito Hills, Monday/Wednesday/ Friday, 9-11, Saturday, 12-4 510-524-5557

GOOD Housekeeper wanted for 1 elderly lady in Walnut Creek. Must be neat and clean and pleasant. Will give board and nice private room and bath, plus salary. 939-1933.

COOK, babysitter, housecleaning needed, part-time. Pay negotiable, room available. (510)339-0597.

TOP JOBS

Live-in/ live-out elderly care positions available now! Must drive, minimum 1 year home care experience, CDL, and current work references. Call Monday, Friday 281-4063.

Family Home Companions**403 Childcare Wanted**

BABYSITTER, 4 month twins, North Berkeley, Monday-Thursday, 8-11. Need transportation. Live dogs. 525-5980.

AFTER school childcare, south Berkeley, 3-7 p.m. Monday-Friday, \$7/hr. Car required. Contact Richard Bell 843-1889

FULL-TIME caregiver, live-out, Montclair, preschooler, infant. Own car, nonsmoking, English speaking, light housekeeping, references 656-5656.

TUTOR/ Companion for 2 school-age girls. Must be responsible, creative, organized, cheerful, and sophisticated. Fluent English, driver's license, non-smoking, references required. Three hours each afternoon. \$10 per hour. Call 658-1509, evenings

RESPONSIBLE person to care for 8 year old son with warts and intelligence, 3-6:30 p.m. Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday. Must speak English. Good references. Valid CDL. Salary negotiable. Begin January 548-7654.

IMMEDIATELY wanted loving caregiver, English speaking, car, \$6.50/hour, Tuesday, Thursday 3-6 p.m. Occasional full days for bright, outgoing 4 year old. Rockridge, 655-6810

CHILD CARE long term 3-6 p.m. Monday-Friday 8 or 9 hours a day over Holidays. Must drive. Call George: 849-1630 or Mary: 841-3588

SEEKING parent to bring their young toddler to our home and care for our 16 month old boy. 20-25 hours/week, \$6.50/hour. 465-9170

CHILD CARE: 4 year girl, live-out, 4 1/2 days/week; 7:30 a.m. - 7 p.m. (noon Fridays), plus available for full time day. Car required, good driving record. English speaking, non-smoking, housekeeping/ errands. References required. Lafayette, Call 415-397-9183

LOOKING for loving, energetic sitter to watch 2 to 3 preschool children. Flexible hours, non-smoking, references required. Rachel 835-1051.

AIDE/ driver for autistic 4 year old, 2-5:30 Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Tuesday, Thursday possible. Must have reliable insured car, good driving record, references. 510-841-2544.

AU PAIR/ live-in, English speaking, drive, 2 school girls, light housekeeping. (510)769-6281, car (415)785-9969

CHILD CARE needed 3-5 days/week, 3-6 p.m. for 2 girls (ages 6 and 9). Must speak English, have own car. Call 654-5515.

\$7/hour childcare, 3-7 Monday-Friday, Boy 11, girl 7. Responsible, car required, must speak English. Excellent references required. After 6 p.m. call 835-5249.

NANNYs needed permanently, experience, references, car required. No fee, (510)933-2273. Be In Our Care Agency

BABYSITTER for our 11 and 5 year old daughters. Monday-Friday, 2:30-6:30. Occasional evenings. Car necessary. Caring, days (510)586-9306; evenings (510)428-9383.

BABYSITTER wanted for one 2 year old now. Plus one infant expected in June. 3 days per week, Berkeley. Requires fluent English, experienced, own car, non-smoking. 528-2128

IMMEDIATELY needed; loving, responsible experienced provider, 35 hours/week, to care for 10 month old daughter, my Glenview home. 531-5739

KIND, loving person needed to care for 2 infants (8 months old) in North Berkeley home. 15-20 hours per week (Wednesday and Friday). \$10-\$12 per hour. Own car, Fluent English. References required. Call Tom or Hilary, 652-7334

AU PAIR full-time, live-in, driver, speak English, nice family in Rockridge. 3 kids. Childcare and housekeeping room, board, salary. 652-7334

404 Shared Childcare

HAVE 19 month old and fantastic sitter Treeste Glen area, Oakland, Hours, location flexible 835-9084

SHARE our 18 month daughter's wonderful caregiver. Experienced, dependable, upper Rockridge. Prefer full time. Ages 635-3321

PLAYMATE wanted for 2 year old son, Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 1-5:30 in our home off Joaquin Miller Rd. or yours. Share experience, dependable babysitter starting January 530-7091, 482-0132.

SHARE exceptional babysitter with 6 month old girl, Skyline/ Montclair area. Hours, location flexible Call Sandy 482-6375

SHARE exceptional, loving caregiver with our 2 month old son, Monday-Friday, 8-5:30 beginning January. Montclair area. Cynthia 530-7727.

405 Childcare - Licensed

CHILD CARE Skyline area, 14 months-3 years Outside activities. Structured Montessori work 530-6830 5101206795

OVER Rainbow Daycare. Loving, lightly structured pre-school activities, outings, Credentialed teacher, Deborah, 339-2066. License #010218900

Family Daycare Information Center
Recorded list of providers by Zip Code 24 hours daily. Updates on Wednesday. License #010214296 510-888-1980

405 Childcare - Licensed

RELIABLE, quality childcare. Warm, loving Rockridge home. Activities, experience, references, CPR certified #010213267 Poly 853-8391

RELIABLE daycare. Healthy environment. In-out activities, in safe, clean area. Experienced. License #010214548 530-1860.

ACROSS from Ashby/ Berkeley BART, O-5 years. Nurturing/ fun/ learning. Meals/ reasonable #010216155 841-4258

MONTE Taver Family Day Care, O-5 years, lots of activities, fun, safe environment. Kids learn Spanish. 510-532-3502, License #010216225 Reference Jane Klein 535-0495

406 Babysitters & Au Pairs

DO you need a nanny? Great experience, excellent references. Mature age, live-in or out 865-8583

OUR loving, experienced nanny now available. Especially wonderful with babies. 268-8805

407 Home Health Care Offered

The following people would like to be hired as Home Health Care Providers. If you are looking for a job as a Home Health Care Provider, please see Categories 401 and 402.

ABLE CARE INC.

Personal, quality 24 hour live-in care and companionship for the elderly and handicapped in the comfort and security of your own home. Bonded and insured. 510-685-4704

If you need special care for a loved one 25 years experience. Excellent references. 510-428-9035

A CARING CONNECTION

Bonded, quality home care includes personal care, housekeeping, companionship. Call Karen, 524-8076

409 Salon Opportunities

HAIRSTYLIST Montclair. Excellent opportunity. Clientele available. Station rental. Parking and manicurist available. 339-1592, leave message

ANGELO'S Leasing only, one stylist, one manicurist. 12 operator salon, Oakland Hills. Contact Kitty 531-0252

411 Work Wanted

BERKELEY High Students available for part-time work. Career Center 545-5627

Financial**502 Business & Commission Opportunities****IS YOUR BUSINESS FOR SALE?**

Interested in Acquiring Northern California Manufacturing or Distribution business with a potential for growth. The ideal business should require capital, marketing management and a unique product position

If you are interested in selling all or part of your business, please send a brief business description and product brochure to: Box K, 6208 La Salvia Avenue, Oakland, CA 94611

SALESMEN Emergency Response/ Security Systems. Earning unlimited. Resume: P.O. Box 6146, Albany 94706/ Fax: 527-6957

503 Financial Services

I buy trust deeds, full or partial. Fast cash 510-284-9308.

For Sale**601 Antiques & Real Estate**

TURN-OF-THE-CENTURY oak table, 40x60, two 15" attached leaves, bulbous carved legs; \$925/ best offer 652-7334

MARIE Laurencin French impressionist original lithographs. 1939 Catalogue Marchesseau #192 \$375 Framed. 874-4799

THREE Japanese stacked black Lacquer trays. Decorated with entwined gold vines. Excellent condition. \$350 874-4799

PICTURES- two late 1800's prints. \$150 each 339-6011.

DINING set- mahogany 40's Sideboard, buffet, mirror \$900 Will sell matching table if offer is good. 339-6011.

602 Appliances

WASHERS and dryers. Kenmore/Whirlpool. Reconditioned and rebuilt. Guaranteed 90 days. Delivery available. 548-4419 anytime

SANYO apartment size refrigerator, 1 year old \$110. Good condition. 510-530-8240

REFRIGERATOR GE Profile, automatic ice maker, dispenser, crusher, brand new, white, \$800. 531-7037

WASHER and Dryer/ Frigidaire, heavy duty, deluxe, large capacity, brand new, white, \$550 for both 531-7037

Vintage Gas Stoves

Wedgwood, O'Keefe, etc. Repaired and sold. 14 years experience. Licensed 841-8711

WASHER/ dryer, excellent condition. \$500 both or \$300 each 268-9291

REFRIGERATOR: Kenmore Frost-free/ 2 door, 13 cubic ft. Apartment size. Used, "Low mileage" 482-9412

603 Garage & Estate Sales

GARAGE SALE ADS? See Clip 'n' Go for the Holidays! Classifieds Page A

605 Home Furnishings

Discount prices on custom Sunflex mini-blinds and Louverdash pleated shades. Draperies too. Free estimates and installation. Master Interiors 569-7540

MATTRESS Sets. Twin, \$89. Full, \$109. Queen, \$159. Sofabed, \$299. Sofa with loveseat, \$399. Bunkbeds, \$228. Child-beds, bedroom sets, roll-aways. Simmons, Sealy, Restonic. 444-1990.

SOFA, loveable, matching chair. Three months old. From condo display. Cost \$1195 sell \$395. 886-8127

THREE Oriental rugs for sale at bargain prices. Call 652-0934

DINING set Oak Antique, \$600. Sofa in excellent condition \$250 or best offer. Evenings 865-4026

CUSTOM made designer couch, brand new White, inverted camelback, rolled arms, 104" long \$1000 530-2452

LARGE black couch, \$250. Oakwood desk with chair, \$325. California king size bed, \$300. 530-0785

EXECUTIVE Desk, 60"x36". Walnut finish, 2 drawers, 2 files. \$150 or best offer. 510-531-8211

DESK and chair- solid cherry top, Queen Anne table and chairs- new needs refinish. High back leather tufted chair, excellent condition. \$1,000. 339-6011

SOFA, 2 armchairs, beautiful 3 piece suite- new Cherron/ oak, velvet, hand crafted England. Hardwood details, supremely comfortable! \$1100. 222-4552

Clean Your House and Make Money! Our Garage Sale Ads Bring Buyers!

606 Miscellaneous For Sale

SKI Shop Liquidation. New/ used downhill, cross country equipment. Saturday, Sunday 9-4, weekdays by appointment. 292 Lee St. 863-8130

CASHMERE coat, size 6L, oatmeal jacket, shearing, 3/4 length, 60". Just like new. 528-0478

MISCELLANEOUS computer parts, CB's/ walkie-talkies, fishing rods and reels, lawn mowers, two drawer file cabinet, a scanner, crowders and more. Call Bernadette 482-9828

1990 Bianchi Strada LX, mint condition. New Nordica 717 ski boots, men's size 9. 339-8549

COMPUTERS: MAC Plus \$200, MAC SE \$450- \$525. Perfect Christmas gift. 521-0883

THE Oakland Hills Tennis Club. Membership for sale. Including health club facilities. \$750. 530-5653

SILVERWARE service for elicit, Holmes and Edwards. Extra pieces, approximately 60 pieces total. 531-6539

STORAGE/ garden shed, approximately 6 ft. x 9 ft., excellent condition. (510)783-1260

ONE set chain links, 2 sets wire cables, 2 ski racks for luggage rack. 531-9388

RUG, wool Kirman 8'10"x12'3", rich reds and blues, forty years old. Excellent condition. Worth \$6,000. Sacrifice for \$3,000. Call (510)339-3259

SKI Free! 2 for 1 tickets to Sugar Bowl good any day \$5/each 420-1004

607 Miscellaneous Wanted

WANTED- An old toy train Lionel, Marx, American Flyer. Ives. 547-1278

608 Musical Instruments

PIANOS. Professional rebuilder has many specialties for sale. All reconditioned \$500 and up. 465-5101

MONARCH upright piano with bench, excellent tone, \$395 or best offer, 843-3880

YAMAHA full-size Keyboard (hardcase, stand, A/C power adapter). Very good condition \$250 (best offer). 521-3559

CLARINET with case and extra reeds. Reconditioned. \$250. Christmas gift! 601-9453

BALDWIN Baby Grand Piano, Howard model, Walnut case, ivory keys, \$2800, best offer. 849-3883, l/r

609 Pets - Care & Supplies

RESPONSIBLE reliable person with excellent references will take care of your pets. Walk, feed, and tender loving care while your home or away. 339-6129

Rentals**PUBLISHER'S NOTICE**

All real estate advertised in this newspaper is subject to Federal Fair Housing Act in 1968 which makes it illegal to advertise "any discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, familial composition or marital and physical handicap, or an intention to make such preference, limitation or discrimination." This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertisement for real estate which is in violation of the laws. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. Provided as a service by Hills Newspapers, Inc. and the Oakland Association of REALTORS on the Voluntary Affirmative Marketing Agreement.

701 Lofts & Live-Work Space

\$900 WONDERFUL Loft (Old School) near Piedmont Ave. 900 sq. ft. Great light, hardwoods. 510-531-3471

\$1334- \$1564 EXPERIENCE HOT LIVING 247 Fourth St. - Refined Live/ Work Lofts. Authentic industrial area near Jack London Square. 1300- 1600 sq. ft. units. Parking Call 834-2415

702 For Rent - General

WANT by Christmas. Small office space. Montclair Village/ environs. Call Attorney: (510) 530-9331. Fax: (510) 530-5009

704 Housing Wanted

NUN needs 1 bedroom apartment or cottage. Secure, lease possible. Less than \$500. Evenings (415)664-5431

EXECUTIVE family wants rental, Piedmont-Montclair/ upper Rockridge, 4 bedrooms, up to \$2000. 510-420-1658

705 Sleeping Rooms

\$265 AND \$325 Two rooms available. Oakland, Lake area. Privacy, secured, quiet (510)465-9428

706 Sublets & Short-Term Rentals

\$1200 FURNISHED six rooms, Grand Lake area, Oakland, January to June. Fireplace, skylights, piano, Cable, 2 1/2 bedrooms, 2 baths (510)465-1557

\$1700 SIX month short-term lease, Treatise Glen area, 2 1/2 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath home, immaculate condition. 465-1682

ONE bedroom furnished rental available during December. Quiet neighborhood, North Berkeley, Tourists accepted. 525-4066

707 Vacation Rentals Bed & Breakfast

NORTH Tahoe Dollar Point, 4 bedroom home, ski 415-323-4055

NAPA Valley charming 2 bedroom home, vineyard setting, fireplace, hot tub, weekdays/ weekends 652-3847

Norstar- at Tahoe/ Lake Donner. Winter ski rentals/ holiday sales. Ski West Realty 1-800-339-5535

NORTH Tahoe Home sleeps 12. Weekends/ Weekly 653-2820

Apt./Condos/Flats For Rent**709 Alameda****710 APT. FOR RENT STUDIOS**

\$525 SUNNY bright upper classic Victorian, new paint, fireplace. Holiday delight, cat welcome, parking. 769-9068

712 APT. FOR RENT 2 BEDROOMS

\$775 LOVELY 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Deck and storage, off-street parking. 531-6360

\$1075 Two bedroom Victorian flat. SPACIOUS. Good Coast upper, hardwoods, new bathroom, extras, cat okay. 769-8068

Property Managers! Call Your Rentals With Us For Best RESULTS!!

3-9-8777

714 Albany & Kensington

ALBANY, Kensington, El Cerrito; Studio, one two, three bedroom apartments, flats, houses. Berkeley Connection, 845-7821

\$575 ALBANY near Solano. Large modern studio, 500 sq. ft. Appliances, carpets, drapes, patio. JEROME BLANK REALTY 528-4215

\$720 APARTMENT furnished Key Route Blvd. cottage. Water and gas paid. Washer/ dryer included. Garden, no stairs. Days, Jerry 215-0390

\$795 LARGE 2 bedroom duplex, 1 bath. Carpets, garage, \$1200 deposit. 721 Buchanan. 528-0151

715 Berkeley**716 APT. FOR RENT STUDIOS**

BERKELEY CONNECTION RENTALS \$5 off with this ad on regular subscription. FREE PREVIEWS + FREE PHONE USE. LANDLORDS LIST FREE. MONEY BACK GUARANTEE. 845-7821. 2840 COLLEGE AVENUE • SINCE 1975

\$395 COZY Studio apartment, near North Shattuck. 238-8912

\$452 SUNNY Studio. Clean, quiet, secure. Non-smoking. No pets. Deposit required. Leave information at 874-4799

\$468 STUDIO apartment, 5 blocks to campus. coin laundry, 238-8912

\$468 STUDIO apartment, 5 blocks to campus, coin laundry, 238-8912

\$475 INCLUDES utilities. Charming quiet in-law. Limited cooking. Furnished, Television, linens, dishware. Available January 1, possibly early. Non-smoking. 548-0828

\$475 NORTH Berkeley furnished studio. Three units, full kitchen. Virginia/ walnut. #38931-B. Homefinders 548-6450.

570 10 NORTH BERKELEY

1633 Walnut Studio, garden setting, close to campus, deck, intercom entry, elevator, coin laundry. Call 531-6969

\$570 LARGE sunny wood shingle faced building, new carpet, fresh paint, all utilities paid, close to BART/ shopping, access to pleasant little fish pond, 415-291-9552

\$570 STUDIO, 41st Street, North Oakland cute cottage-style duplex. Garden setting. Quiet, great neighbors. Must see! 889-7870

\$460 CHARMING older building, good neighborhood, walking distance to Downtown. Most utilities included. 251-0511/ 451-9256

\$460 LANDMARK building, 1920's charm, hardwood floors, good natural light, eat-in kitchen, gas stove, walk-in closet. Must see! 763-2142. Tony

\$465- \$495 5160 CLAREMONT Ave., Oakland Studio. Hardwoods. Large closet. Laundry. Heat included. 652-7278

\$485 CHINA Hill. Very large studio with separate dining area in 1920's building. Quiet, sunny, south facing with view. 9' ceilings. Bay windows. New paint and blinds. Good neighborhood, garden. 465-8774

D ■ Hills Publications

750 HOMES FOR RENT
3 BEDROOMS

\$2500 UNUSUAL North Berkeley home. Lovely area 2 1/2 bathrooms. Gardens, view, hot tub. (510) 841-4202.

752 El Cerrito & North

\$875 RICHMOND view, 2+ bedroom, huge yard, large kitchen, gas range. 232-4131.

\$925 EL CERRITO 2 bedroom, Fairmont, Plaza, BART, dining room, fireplace, patio, no pets. 525-3637.

\$1000 PLUS deposit El Cerrito 3 bedroom, 1 bath. Carpet hardwoods, laundry, fireplace. Near transportation. Evenings 6-9 p.m. 524-6932.

\$1050 THREE bedroom, 2 bath, family room, 2 fireplaces. Panoramic view, deck, double garage. 527-2326.

\$1100 SPECTACULAR former model townhome, 1300 sq. ft., vaulted ceilings, contemporary 3 bedroom 2 bath, view of hill and Bay, double car garage, pool and spa, tennis courts with clubhouse. Located in El Solbrante Richmond Hills near Hilltop, close to freeways/shopping. Executive-style living at low cost. Lease/lease option. Call for information: Yvonne Doering-Morgan, 254-1835, pager 620-7024. Security Pacific.

\$1150 EL CERRITO Charming 2 bedroom, 1 bath, beautifully updated kitchen with eating area and utility room. Formal dining, fireplace, hardwood, quiet, filtered view. 525-5269.

\$1150 QUIET El Cerrito Hills 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath, hardwood, garage, fireplace, partial view, 526-6116.

754 Lamorinda & East

\$1295 ORINDA 3 bedroom, 2 bath, spacious, quiet, nice yard, carpet. Occupied second unit. 527-4847.

755 Oakland
Piedmont & South756 HOMES FOR RENT
1 BEDROOMS

\$595 ONE bedroom, North Oakland. Hardwood floors, walk-in closet, workrooms, patio, garden. Parking. Call 601-1602.

\$850 LARGE 1 bedroom house, newly painted inside and out. Remodeled kitchen, fireplace, small backyard, near Piedmont Avenue. Small dog or cat okay. Available January 15th. (415) 257-4780 ask for Mary.

757 HOMES FOR RENT
2 BEDROOMS

\$685 BEAUTIFUL, spotless home. All hardwood floor, off-street parking, laundry room, storage, all utilities paid. Children welcome. 2146 50th Avenue. 533-8333.

\$725 460-44th St. Newly painted inside, new stove and refrigerator, 2 bedrooms, living room, dining room, kitchen, enclosed rear porch. 652-8962.

\$750 TWO plus bedrooms, cottage-like house with fenced yard, updated kitchen, bath, etc. Nice area, secluded. Ivy Hill. 532-3422.

\$900 TWO bedrooms, hardwood floors, basement for storage and laundry hook-up, patio. 2380 Wilbur. 531-7355.

\$820 TWO bedrooms, Laurel area, fenced yard, garage, laundry, move in condition. No pets. 652-1997.

\$825 TWO bedroom 1 bath, fireplace, fenced yard, parking. 3051 California Street. 582-6862/pager: 553-6408.

\$850 CHARMING 2 bedroom, 1 bath. Newly remodeled. Must see. 4481 Redding. Call 569-9430.

\$850 DIMOND area, 2 1/2 bedroom, 1 1/4 bath, remodeled kitchen and bathroom, hardwood floors, fireplace, backyard, washer/dryer connection, very clean and convenient. (510) 535-1244.

\$900 SUNNY 2 plus bedrooms with large basement. Large kitchen and yard, near Temple. 530-6099.

\$900 TWO bedroom, 1 bathroom, Maxwell Park, hardwood floors, fireplace, breakfast nook, freshly painted, near Mills College, no pets. Michelle 531-7005.

\$950 LAUREL Mediterranean, 1 1/2 baths, alarm, yard, garage, gourmet kitchen, laundry. 4175 Bayo. 339-0225.

\$1000 CHARMING Lower Redwood 2 bedrooms, washer/dryer. Private yard, spa. No dogs, non-smoking. 530-1402.

\$1000 POOLHOUSE, quiet, 2 bedrooms, 1 1/2 bath, fireplace, parking, fenced, Oakland/San Leandro Hills. 636-0843.

\$1050 LEONA Heights new house flat. Good access, view, deck, trees, fireplace, appliances. 530-2304-482-0545.

\$1050 SHEPHERD Village-Oakland 2+2 bedroom, bath, bonus room, appliances, alarm, garage, gardener. Good neighborhood. 562-8996.

\$1095 NICE attractive neighborhood, charming bungalow, 1 bath, hardwood floors, fireplace, washer/dryer, deck, enclosed yard. Non-smoking. Cat welcome. 208-3598.

\$1100 BUNGALOW on prettiest block of California Street, dining room, hardwood floors, fireplace, washer/dryer, quiet friendly neighborhood. 272-1477, 482-0169.

\$1100 LOVING care shows, Sunny, hardwood floors, friendly neighborhood. Fireplace, pets may be. CPS/Select management. 444-0276.

CUTE HOUSE

555 Spruce St. (Oakland) 2 bedroom house. Hardwood floors, garage, fenced yard with gardener, beautiful tiled kitchen, washer/dryer. Call 531-6008.

\$1200 TWO bedroom, 2 bath, new kitchen, deck, alarm, creek setting. Excellent condition. 3159 Jordan Rd. No pets. 531-6673.

\$1250 NEAR Piedmont, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, updated kitchen. Pets allowed. Large backyard, detached artist studio. Available January 1, 268-9291.

\$1250 ROCKIDGE, hardwood, fireplace, garden, laundry, garage, BART, shopping. Pet negotiable. Available January 13. 652-3362.

\$1400 MEDITERRANEAN, beamed ceiling, fireplace, hardwood floors, view, privacy, dining room, large garage. Waterhouse Rd. 272-1477, 482-0169.

HOMES for rent. No fee. Call Tracy at 893-2921 for more information.

WINTERS RENTAL DIVISION

758 HOMES FOR RENT
3 BEDROOMS

\$850 PLUS help caretaking: plants, animals. Sunny home, 2 baths, hardwood floors, fireplace, yard. 569-3353.

\$995 THREE bedroom, 1 bath, detached garage, laundry room, yard, 2502 Hearst Ave. Oakland. 374-7599.

\$1000 4270 MOUNTAIN Blvd., extra large family room, walk-to-wall carpet, 1 bath. Fireplace, remodeled kitchen, yard. 530-1005.

\$1150 BROWN shingle, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, hardwood floors, garage, basement. Gardener. Bellevue Ave., Oakland. No pets. 893-7543.

\$1200 ROCKIDGE, Sunny 3 bedroom, 1 bath, hardwood floors, enclosed yard, deck, laundry. 841-7708.

\$1200 YOSEMITE Ave./ Piedmont Ave., 3 bedroom, hardwood floors, garage, laundry available. 842-5811.

\$1250 LAKESHORE Terrace, sunny 3 bedroom, fireplace, deck, laundry, fenced yard, garage, available now. 893-8109.

758 HOMES FOR RENT
3 BEDROOMS

\$1250 OAKLAND Hills, view, 3 bedroom, fireplace, hardwood, dining, appliances, laundry, yard, garage. 536-3507.

\$1250 OFF Redwood, large 3 bedroom 2 bath, fireplace, dining room, garage, nice area. 510-530-1492.

\$1250 SEQUOYAH Hills, 3+ bedroom, 2 bath, hardwoods, fireplace, jacuzzi, security, laundry, patio, garage. 568-5322.

\$1250 SPACIOUS, 3+ bedrooms, 2 bath in Glenview area. Formal dining room, living room, views, deck, washer/dryer. 540-5543.

\$1300 LAKE area. Dining room, hardwood floors, fireplace, garden. Near transportation/freeway/shops/movies. 451-7148.

\$1300 MONTCLAIR 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, deck, laundry, 2 car garage. Located Eastwood Court. 482-4851.

\$1350 OAKMORE Area. 3 bedroom 1 1/2 bath, spacious living room, formal dining room, breakfast nook, approximately 1650 square feet, great full room, call Michelle 531-7005.

\$1400 MONTCLAIR 3 bedrooms, 3 baths, garage, deck, hot tub, Tahoe setting, no pets, 843-7745.

\$1415 UP. Homes in Montclair Hills. 3-4 bedrooms. Nice, woody. J.V. Silveira Company. 834-9814.

\$1425 MONTCLAIR 3 bedroom, 2 bath, garage, yard, family room. Better Homes, Jeff 893-7545/339-8400.

\$1450 OAKLAND Hills, large 3 bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, wood floors, patio. Great neighborhood, schools, transportation. Pets Negotiable. 2012 Melvin Rd. 916-524-0794, days; 916-684-7745, evenings.

\$1475 OAKLAND Hills, excellent neighborhood, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, family room, 2 fireplaces, new carpet, 2 car garage. Refrigerator, washer/dryer, dishwasher, private yard, gardener, no pets. 299-1139.

\$1500 MONTCLAIR Hills, restful view, large 3 bedroom, 2 bath, family room, den, fireplace, carpets, drapes, all appliances. 339-8625. Garage.

\$1500 PIEDMONT 3 bedroom 2 bath. Fireplace, hardwoods, yard, deck, parking. Cambridge/93098-B. Homefinders 549-6450.

\$1550 ROCKIDGE, great view, walk BART, 2 bath, large garage auto-open, fireplace, laundry, hardwood. 653-8367.

\$1675 ROCKIDGE, walk to BART, 3 bedroom, 1 1/2 bath. Gourmet kitchen. Laundry. Alarm, gardener. Christmas ready. 658-6817.

\$1700 ROCKIDGE Highlands elegant, traditional 3 bedroom, 2 bath. Hardwood floors, formal dining room, fireplace, deck. Appliances, gardener, non-smoking. 510-452-5582.

\$1750 MONTCLAIR. Almost new 3 bedroom 3 bath living room, family room all large, 3 fireplaces. Large master suite. 339-0214.

\$1900 NEW contemporary house in Piedmont Pines, 3 bedroom, 2 1/2 baths, beautiful panoramic view, 482-5586, 531-8676.

\$1950 SPECTACULAR VIEW 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths, 3 decks, exercise/dressing room, family room, view everywhere. Redwood Heights. CPS/Select 444-0276.

\$2400 LOVELY North Berkeley home, near to everything, great views, fireplace, high ceilings, nice yard. Call Pat or Emily 848-5974.

\$2500 MONTCLAIR 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 baths. Spectacular brand new home, approximately 3000 sq. ft. Spacious living and dining, new carpet throughout, fireplace, 2 car garage. Possible lease option. Call Michelle 531-7005.

759 HOMES FOR RENT
4 OR MORE BEDROOMS

\$1200 FOUR bedroom house in San Leandro-Mar. Also 5 stores, different locations in Alameda. 522-3946.

\$1400 FOUR bedroom, 2 bath, fireplace, view, sun porch, off street parking, fenced backyard. 893-9378.

\$1500 FOUR bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, living & dining, 2-car garage. 1 year lease. 538-9129.

\$1500 LEASE option. Huge 5 bedroom, 2 bath, 2 story house. Good Oakland location. 769-0300.

\$1850 OAKLAND Hills-Redwood, 4 bedrooms, 3 baths, 3 car garage, Bay view, gardener. Month to month. 488-223-7475.

\$1900 PIEDMONT Pines contemporary 4 bedroom 2 1/2 bath, large kitchen, formal dining, 2 fireplaces, garage, view. 482-1862.

\$1950 UPPER Rockridge. Spanish 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, large kitchen, fireplace, in-law with kitchen, panoramic view, family room, yard. 254-5456.

\$2200 PIEDMONT spacious, traditionally remodeled 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath. Hardwood floors, fireplace, remodeled kitchen, office, den, deck, appliances, alarm, location. 531-8462.

\$2300 MONTCLAIR, canyon setting, 4 bedroom, 2 1/2 bath, decks, views, spa, lease option available. 339-8046.

\$2300 PIEDMONT 4 bedroom, 2 bath. Pool, incredible 3 bridge view, fireplaces, decks, bright, hardwood, 2 car garage. Must see. Taisch Properties (415) 826-4223.

\$2500 NEW home, 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 bath, alarm, view, decks. Near country club, school and BART. 510-934-3987.

\$2500 NEW home, 4 bedrooms, 3 1/2 bath, alarm, view, decks. Near country club, school and BART. 510-934-3987.

Share Rentals

772 Albany & Kensington

\$350 SHARE with 1 male. Own room. Quiet building, patio, BART, off-street parking. 525-0896.

774 El Cerrito & North

\$300 NORTH El Cerrito. Deposit. 1/3 utilities. Share with female. 236-0956, after 6 p.m.

\$390 DEER COUNTRY El Cerrito Spacious Townhome with professional female. Private bedroom, bath, garage, non-smoking/pets. available December 15. 510-237-7775.

776 Lamorinda & East

\$500 ORINDA homestead to share hillside home with quiet, spiritually oriented housemates, 30's-40's. Bedroom and study. 1/3 utilities. 510-253-9482.

\$500 PLUS utilities. Near Mills with 2 non-smoking professionals. Great kitchen, laundry, easy parking. 533-9673.

\$530 PLUS 1/4 utilities. Montclair view house, secluded, sunny, quiet. Deck, patio, washer/dryer. 339-2396.

\$375 SHARE 2 bedroom home near Mills College with Lesbian couple. Available now. Nancy. 532-7758.

\$400 SHARE with 2 females. Newly constructed 3 bedroom, 3 bath flat, high ceilings, balconies, laundry. Near Piedmont Ave. Must see. 810-450-5027, day; 510-654-7710, evenings.

\$410 MONTCLAIR Hills. Plus utilities. Two men seeking third. Large sunny bedroom, bath, study. 841-7708.

\$450+ FOREST, Fauna, exclusive, quiet Hills home to share, all conveniences, fireplaces, decks, professionals. 339-3685.

\$450 PLUS 1/3 utilities. Share beautiful Oakland Hills home with 2 females. Fireplace, deck. 601-7578.

777 Oakland
Piedmont & South

\$475 PIEDMONT area 3 bedroom home, share with owner. Fireplace, view, decks, amenities. Non-smoking. 838-8730.

\$500 LESSBAND seeks roommate. Quiet, safe 2 bedroom Dimond district. Fireplace, hardwoods, non-smoking. 530-7289.

\$500 SEPARATE unit, 1 bedroom, bath, living room, deck, office, kitchen privileges, views, non-smoking. 482-2062.

\$500 VIEW VIEW VIEW! Piedmont border. Walk to shopping/theater. Share 2 bedroom 2 bath with professional. Laundry, balcony. Non-smoking, no drugs, no pets. 208-2968.

\$520 NEAR Lakeshore, Commodious. Fireplace, laundry. Private bathroom, 13x21 bedroom, study, views. Non-smoking. 465-7421. Peter.

\$600 SHARE wonderful Montclair home and Bay view with 2 women and a cat. Wood floors, fireplace, washer/dryer, dishwasher. Room furnished or unfurnished. Non-smoking, no more pets. Available December 4. Call Connie 339-7568.

Commercial Rentals

782 Berkeley & North

2700 sq. ft. to 16,500 sq. ft. ground floor and second floor prime Richmond location for only 50¢ per sq. ft. base rent, plus T.I.'s. Good freeway access - W. H. Frank Co. 231-0232.

LARGE warehouse type or show-room warehouse combo in Prime Richmond location. Good Freeway Access - Walking distance to BART. High employment area. As low as 30¢ per sq. ft. W. H. Frank Co. 231-0232.

OFFICE and Retail Spaces Available. 2000-2500 sq. ft. spaces available in attractive professional center. Near BART, 140-20 minutes to downtown SF and Oakland. Ample on-site parking. Agent 644-1288.

DOWNTOWN Shattuck/Dwight deluxe office space with parking and fern garden lobby. From \$200. 644-3366.

CLAREMONT Ave. near Prince St. approximately 2500 sq. ft. Great store front, retail space. Michelle or Barry 531-7000.

OFFICE/Shop. Excellent location. Good surrounding. Walnut Square. Rent \$325. 869-7207.

ALBANY near Solano, small office, \$200/month including utilities. Share kitchen, common area, and quiet work environment. Available immediately. 525-0101.

784 Oakland
Piedmont & South

1200 SQUARE feet near Piedmont Ave. with 3 bedrooms, 2 1/2 bath, 3 car garage, \$1600 per month. Michelle or Barry 531-7000.

INDUSTRIAL plus residential/office space, 7300 sq. ft., \$1500 per month. 1500 50th Ave., Oakland. Call lease message 548-2023, agent.

PILL Hill, move-in condition, 5000 sq. ft., subdivided into smaller suites, 900-1200, rent all or part, security systems, plumbed for medical or dental use, all business equipment. Physical therapy office for sale also. Below market rent. Easy parking. 444-1235.

DOWNTOWN Oakland. Inexpensive offices. Free rent through December. 2000-6000 sq. ft., on site management. 24 hour security, garage parking on site, near BART. Regis Property Management. Contact Kelly 838-8760.

OFFICE share wanted by marine scientist. Seeking private space 1-2 days/week, access to creek, fax, Montclair preferred. (510) 373-7142.

PIEDMONT Avenue offices 200-600 sq. ft. Private alarm systems. Parking, utilities, janitorial. Ken 465-2763.

SMALL office, centrally located, suitable for growing or established business, reasonable rent. 546-1877.

\$350-800 PER MONTH including utilities. Off Broadway, near Piedmont, beautiful modern office space. 340 sq. ft. front office and adjacent warehouse with roll-up door. Ideal for import/export, distribution, contractor, or service business. 510-526-6896.

\$1000 ABOVE Blockbuster Video. 3296 Lakeshore Ave., second story, 1500 sq. ft., 2 large spaces, rest room with shower, redecorated. Great for office, dance studio, large meetings. Call: 465-7000.

SMALL San Leandro office building, 2 offices, 1 bath, views, locked yard, \$850 per month. Also small metal shop with truck door. 700 sq. ft., \$350 per month. Close to I-580. Weekdays 510-357-9661.

Real Estate Sales & Services

801 Real Estate - General

1-80 HIGHWAY SERVICE STRIP CENTER

Approximately 3,760 sq. ft. Stable Tenants 9% Solid Cap on Current Net Operating Income \$90,000

Approximately 33,186 sq. ft. LEASED OFFICE INVESTMENT

96% Occupancy, 9.8% Cap. \$49/sq. ft. Stable City County Tenants \$1,625,000

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A luxurious, 25 unit apartment community with own private pool and dock

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804 Real Estate Lots

RICHMOND duplex lot, \$35,000. 600 block 1st Street between Ripley and Garrard. New house next door. Leave message. 548-2023 Agent.

\$89,000 Approximately 1/3 acre, upscale/level lot, not far from Montclair Village. Pacific Union, Joan E. Hulse 339-6460, ext. 358

805 Real Estate Services

WORRIED ABOUT FORECLOSURE? Owe more than it's worth? Need to sell? Know about short sales? Call us! Agents Allan Gooch 521-0880, Janie Spatz 521-4043.

806 Real Estate Wanted

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Homes For Sale

811 Alameda

\$216,000 Two bedroom Islandia Townhouse (A model) Private patio, skylights, fireplace. One level living, remodeled kitchen, pool, tennis, landscaping. Insurance \$150 Dues. 523-0197.

\$301,000 FOUR bedroom, 3 bath Townhome View of trees from every window, multi-leveled for privacy, in Alameda near Ferry to SF. Marion, 523-0740 or Mike 233-5160 Agents.

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817 Berkeley

\$220,000 FOUR bedroom, 2 bath, hardwood floors, pine trees. Possible duplex. Motivated seller. Submit all offers. 1443 Josephine St. Do not disturb tenant. Leave message Mike 548-2023, Agent.

EQUITY SHARE

Exquisite BRAND NEW traditional style in Oakland/Berkeley Hills with fabulous wood working, built-in front porch, decks, landscaped front/backyards. Little or no down payment for qualified buyer. \$529,000. Ron MacArthur, broker, (510) 938-7476.

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822 El Cerrito & North

\$184,950 SPACIOUS Mediterranean, over 2000 sq. ft., vaulted ceilings, formal dining room, kitchen nook, spacious family room, 3 bedrooms, 2 baths. Call for information: Yvonne Doering-Morgan 254-1835, pager 620-7024. Security Pacific.

825 Oakland
Piedmont & South

\$135,000 AS is. Montclair area, 3 bedroom, 1 bath, diminutive house, enormous rehab needed. 510-581-4601 after 5:30 p.m.

\$139,000 PERFECT starter, 2 bedroom, remodeled kitchen/bath, fireplace, built-ins. Nahid Nassiri, Better Homes 339-4000.

\$409,500 PIEDMONT, 926 Kingston Avenue. 3+ bedrooms, 2 baths, charming updated bungalow. Co-op owner. (510) 338-1019.

\$489,000 UPPER Piedmont, by owner, 3 bedroom, 2 bath, private, level garden, view, hardwood floors, formal dining. Financing. 530-7822; 658-0149.

FRESHLY redecorated, move-in ready, 2 bedroom, remodeled Laurel area. Termite cleared. \$119,000. Lee Dryer Realty 376-4156.

STUNNING new Craftsman-style shingled townhome in charming creekside community. Pricing begins at \$219,000. Call developer directly for appointment. 436-5759.

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Quality services since 1977, including landscape design, construction, stonework, irrigation, maintenance. Commercial landscaping. License #65032. 261-3585.

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Specialty. References, mature, dependable resident. Quick response. Call 533-6571.

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Delivering, yard cleaning, all types hauling. Reasonable and reliable. Call 537-9887.

Hauling-Garages, yards, estates, removal of furniture, sheds, etc. For business service call Randall, 562-5753.

Removal, yard cleaning, garage, basement, tree, yard cleaning, small debris. References. 549-1077.

Removal, yard cleaning, garage, basement, tree, yard cleaning, small debris. References. 549-1077.

Removal, yard cleaning, garage, basement, tree, yard cleaning, small debris. References. 549-1077.

Removal, yard cleaning, garage, basement, tree, yard cleaning, small debris. References. 549-1077.

Removal, yard cleaning, garage, basement, tree, yard cleaning, small debris. References. 549-1077.

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RELIABLE housecleaning team. Bonded, experienced, thorough. Licensed. Weekly, bi-weekly, vacancies, references. Marie and Maria, 836-0165.

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Moving the Bay Area's finest homes for over 26 years. Efficient, fully trained crews. Specialists in antiques and difficult jobs. Planos, small jobs okay. Call for a free in-home estimate. Statewide. Call T 129396. 532-2170.

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Residential • Commercial Interior • Exterior

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Over 20 years experience in Oakland and Piedmont area. License No. 497281

Call for Free Estimate Large or small jobs (Interior a Specialty)

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PAINTING, Interior, exterior. Expert workmanship, work guaranteed. Reasonable. License #293166. James Frykholm, 530-9599.

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Free Estimates

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WOMAN CONTRACTOR. Fine interior painting, paperhanging, plaster and drywall repairs, wood refinishing. 12 years experience with distinctive older homes. Thorough preparation and protection of your home. Sensitive to women's needs. Impeccable local references. Renovations by Sherry. Call Sherry Madison 215-5002.

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Interior, exterior, residential, apartments. Free estimates. Insured, licensed #535520. Andy's Painting. 841-2260.

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Tuning, repairs, appraisals. Craftsman member Piano Technicians Guild. 835-8448

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Repair a specialty. Finest work. Appliance installation. New Construction. Insured. #539376. 526-2228

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When on 100 Bay Area contractors agree on one plumbing company, you can bet it's good!

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Service, Repair, Kitchen, bath remodeling, Reriping. Free estimates. Reasonable rates. #697352. Yurek 599-4396.

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License #61502. Roofs and Gutters- 10% Discount. Local References. Montclair resident. Free estimates. 339-1116.

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Replace, repair, cleaning, written guarantee. Insured. Reasonable rates. Free estimates. Izy, 548-5304.

COLL

Albany resident wins Agricultural prize

The Wolf Prize in Agriculture for 1994/95 will be awarded jointly to Professor Carl B. Huffaker, of UC-Berkeley and Albany resident, and Professor Perry L. Adkisson, of Texas A&M University.

They are being honored for their contributions to the development and implementation of integrated

pest management systems (IPM), now applied worldwide to increase crop productivity and reduce pesticide use in forestry, fruit orchards, and vegetable and field crops.

The Wolf Foundation was established in 1976 by the late Dr. Ricardo Wolf, inventor, diplomat and philanthropist, "to promote science and

art for the benefit of mankind." The Foundation awards five or six prizes every year, each consisting of a diploma and \$100,000.

The 1994/95 Wolf Prizes will be presented, in Israel, on March 26, 1995, by the President of Israel, Ezer Weizman, at the Knesset (Parliamentary) building in Jerusalem.

Public Notices

Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on October 28, 1994. The Journal December 1, 8, 15, 22, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7130
The Name of the Business:
Akimbo Software, 117 Ipswich Way, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.
Is hereby registered by the following Owners:
Robert Melvin Murphy, 117 Ipswich Way, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.
Janet Louise Navihron, 117 Ipswich Way, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523.
This business is conducted by Individuals - Husband and Wife.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 15, 1994. The Journal December 1, 8, 15, 22, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7208
The Name of the Business:
California Women's Investment Club, 4732 Berk Avenue, Richmond, CA 94804-4317.
Is hereby registered by the following Owners:
Charlotte A Brooks, 16376 Rancho Escondido, Riverside, CA 92506.
Beverly E Habersham, 4732 Berk Avenue, Richmond, CA 94804.
Florence Boyd, 555 Noriega, San Francisco, CA 94122.
Denise Burroughs, 3650 Malcolm Avenue, Oakland, CA 94605.
Janet D Glydy, 1231 S. St. Andrews Place, Los Angeles, CA 90018.
Mary Williams, 248 South Vista Del Monte, Anaheim Hills, CA 92807.
Kay Lindsey, 21805 Todd Avenue, Yorba Linda, CA 92687.
This business is conducted by a General Partnership.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 21, 1994. The Journal December 1, 8, 15, 22, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7198
The Name of the Business:
Jehova - Jira's, 420 Central Ave., Pittsburg, CA 94565.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Virginia Pearce, 420 Central Ave., Pittsburg, CA 94565.
This business is conducted by Individuals - Husband and Wife.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 18, 1994. The Journal December 1, 8, 15, 22, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7188
The Name of the Business:
ABS Enterprises, 1712 Wesley Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Cho-Hung Chiu, 1712 Wesley Avenue, El Cerrito, CA 94530.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 18, 1994. The Journal December 1, 8, 15, 22, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7274
The Name of the Business:
1) Camp Quest RV Parts and Supplies 2) Camp Quest Service and Repairs, 12605 San Pablo Avenue, Richmond, CA 94805.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Jennelle Marie Petkovich, 41 Seagull Drive, Richmond, CA 94804.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 23, 1994. The Journal December 1, 8, 15, 22, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7052
The Name of the Business:
Williams & Williams Enterprises, 3909 MacDonal Avenue, Richmond, CA 94805.
Is hereby registered by the following Owners:
Angela D Williams, 1241 Fairway Drive, Richmond, CA 94803.
Vanessa M Williams, 65 Edgewater Place, Pittsburg, CA 94565.
This business is conducted by a General Partnership.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 10, 1994. The Journal December 1, 8, 15, 22, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7142
The Name of the Business:
Dancing Birds Antiques, 3500 Clinton Ave., Richmond, CA 94805.
Is hereby registered by the following Owners:
Mary Helen Sundance, 3500 Clinton Ave., Richmond, CA 94805.
Leonard Alan Howe, 3500 Clinton Ave., Richmond, CA 94805.
This business is conducted by a General Partnership.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 16, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7300
The Name of the Business:
Menus By Design, 302 Rosemarie Place, Bay Point, CA 94565.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Toni Stanley, 302 Rosemarie Place, Bay Point,

Public Notices

CA 94565.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 28, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-6896
The Name of the Business:
Alamo Funding, 895 Holly Hill Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94596.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Jerry L. Gaya, 895 Holly Hill Dr., Walnut Creek, CA 94596.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 2, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7217
The Name of the Business:
Floor Tech, 11835 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Decorative Interiors Inc., El Cerrito, CA 94530.
This business is conducted by a Corporation.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 21, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7218
The Name of the Business:
House Of Carpets, 11835 San Pablo Ave., El Cerrito, CA 94530.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Decorative Interiors Inc., El Cerrito, CA 94530.
This business is conducted by a Corporation.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 21, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7070
The Name of the Business:
Diskin Video Services, 330 North Civic Drive, #504, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Ora Y. Diskin, 330 N. Civic Drive, #504, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.
This business is conducted by Individuals - Husband and Wife.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 14, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7182
The Name of the Business:
Ruval's Service, 895 Coral Dr., Rodeo, CA 94572.
Is hereby registered by the following Owners:
Martha P. Ruvalcaba, 895 Coral Dr., Rodeo, CA 94572.
Salvador Ruvalcaba, 895 Coral Dr., Rodeo, CA 94572.
This business is conducted by Individuals - Husband and Wife.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 18, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-6969
The Name of the Business:
Courtyard Gifts, 319 Santa Cruz Pl., San Ramon, CA 94583.
Is hereby registered by the following Owners:
Sharon Kay Morrison, 319 Santa Cruz Pl., San Ramon, CA 94583.
Kemmira Carol Wehl, 3 Heartland Court, Danville, CA 94506.
This business is conducted by a General Partnership.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 7, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-6904
The Name of the Business:
Ross Engineering Services, 1848 Newell Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94595.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Ross, Edmund, 1848 Newell Ave., Walnut Creek, CA 94595.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 3, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7040
The Name of the Business:
Christmas Lights Unlimited, 343 Live Oak Drive, Danville, CA 94506.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
James E. Fridmore, 343 Live Oak Drive, Danville, CA 94506.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 10, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7038
The Name of the Business:
N.B. Construction, 1469 Creekside Dr., Suite 1034, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Nicolas M. Blois, 1469 Creekside Dr., Suite 1034, Walnut Creek, CA 94596.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 9, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

Public Notices

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7168
The Names of the Business:
1) Feature Communications 2) Jelfin Associates, 696 San Ramon Valley Blvd., Suite 208, Danville, CA 94526.
Are hereby registered by the following Owner:
Mill Lane, 119 Green Brook Ct., Danville CA 94526.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 17, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7079
The Name of the Business:
Guangsheng Technology Co., 160 Cedar Pointe Loop #302, San Ramon, CA 94583.
Is hereby registered by the following Owners:
Guangrong Zhang, 160 Cedar Pointe Loop #302, San Ramon, CA 94583.
Gensao Zhang, Floor 7, 20 Guangdong Road, Shanghai, PRC.
This business is conducted by Co-partners.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 14, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO ADOPT A NEGATIVE DECLARATION

ALBANY MIDDLE SCHOOL: The project is located on Brighton Avenue at the northwest intersection with Spokane Avenue and it is the site of the old Hill Lumber Company. The project site is currently leased to the City of Albany as their corporation yard. The project site is bordered by existing residential land uses. An elevated BART railway is located at the western border of the project site. Subject project is described as follows: The proposed project includes the construction of a new Albany Middle School projected to house up to 1,000 students, grade levels 6-8. The project would require removal of the existing structures on the project site. Land owned by the City of Albany may be included in the project site description.
As the owner of abutting property, or as an otherwise interested person or organization, you are invited to submit any comments you may have on this project and raise any significant environmental issues of which you are aware, so that they can be considered in the environmental review process.
This letter will constitute a Notice of Intent. Please circulate this information to the appropriate persons and agencies as soon as possible. I would encourage those interested to contact the Office of Superintendent, Albany Unified School District, Attention: Dale Hudson, 904 Talbot Avenue, Albany, CA 94706 directly by letter to convey any concerns they may have about the environmental review of the project no later than December 26, 1994 at 5:00 P.M. The Negative Declaration is available for review at the Office of Superintendent, address listed above.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7047
The Name of the Business:
InterActive Systems, 950 Country Run Drive, Martinez, CA 94553.
Is hereby registered by the following Owners:
Ana Marie Avila, 150 Country Run Drive, Martinez, CA 94553.
Jesus Altuna III, 1128 Langley Way, Rodeo, CA 94572.
This business is conducted by Co-Partners.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 10, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7301
The Name of the Business:
Berry Design, 41 Wildwood Place, El Cerrito, CA 94530.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Alison K Berry, 41 Wildwood Place, El Cerrito, CA 94530.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 28, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-6999
The Name of the Business:
Judge and Sons Towing Service, 31 Oxford Court, Pittsburg, CA 94565.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Lucas Judge, 31 Oxford Court, Pittsburg, CA 94565.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 8, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

FICTITIOUS BUSINESS NAME STATEMENT
File No. 94-7000
The Name of the Business:
A Touch of Romance, 20 Jessen Court, Kensington, CA 94707.
Is hereby registered by the following Owner:
Shawnee Lynn Davis, 20 Jessen Court, Kensington, CA 94707.
This business is conducted by an individual.
Statement was filed with County Clerk of Contra Costa County on November 8, 1994. The Journal December 8, 15, 22, 29, 1994.

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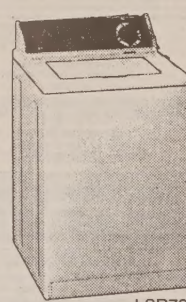


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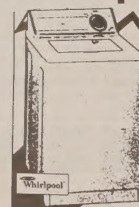
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General Appliance opens on Shattuck

Not being the most domesticated of people, I wasn't sure an article on household appliances would come easy.

Wrong! By the time I took in a showroom of state-of-the-art stoves, refrigerators and washers at Gen-



Sales manager Todd Malone discusses kitchen design with a customer.

eral Appliance in Berkeley, I was ready to remodel my kitchen and sign up for a class in Thai cooking.

"The appliance business has changed drastically in the last few years," said Paul Myer at the store at 2524 Shattuck Avenue. "Today's technology and design is a response to customer demand for sleeker product and improved performance."

"At General Appliance, we're keenly aware of pricing," he says. "By keeping our overheads low, we're able to offer our customers the best prices available."

What's even more important than pricing, says Myer, is product knowledge. That can't be acquired overnight, but from long experience.

"General Appliance, which first opened in Burlingame in 1939, is owned and operated by people who have been in this business for years. They know the details and nuances of what works with what."

At General Appliance, you can purchase anything from a new washing machine to a complete kitchen—cabinets, countertops and all.



Business Focus

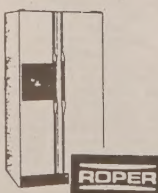
MAGGIE SHARPE

Free design consultation is also available. Using the latest computer software, you can design the kitchen of your dreams down to the finest detail.

Whether you want a kitchen on the leading edge of technology and design, or a new machine to replace the one that's always on the blink, the staff at General Appliance invites you to come in and learn about the latest technologies in kitchen remodeling.

With more than 40 years of experience and the most competitive prices in the Bay Area, General Appliance is your one-stop shop.

To set up an appointment, please call 549-0800.



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